

FRANK MASTROMAURO

VINCE HERNANDEZ

DELLA

ANDRÉ RISSO :: MICHAEL STA.MARIA
HEAGY :: REMALANTE JR. :: MYERS

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*FIRST
EPIC
ISSUE!*



#1

OF 5
COVER A

Vol. 2

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WOLFE
1/14
C.B.

DELLEC

CHAPTER

2::1

On Earth As It Is In Heaven

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Direct Edition
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& PETER STEIGERWALD



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For Aspen: Founder: Michael Turner Co-Owner: Peter Steigerwald Co-Owner/President: Frank Mastromauro
Vice President/Editor in Chief: Vince Hernandez Vice President/Design and Production: Mark Roslan Editor: Gabe Carrasco
Marketing Assistant: Corinne Chuah Production Assistant: Justin Vancho Office Manager: Megan Shirk AspenStore.com: Chris Rupp

DELLEC™ Vol. 2 Issue 1 SEPTEMBER 2018. DIGITAL COPY.

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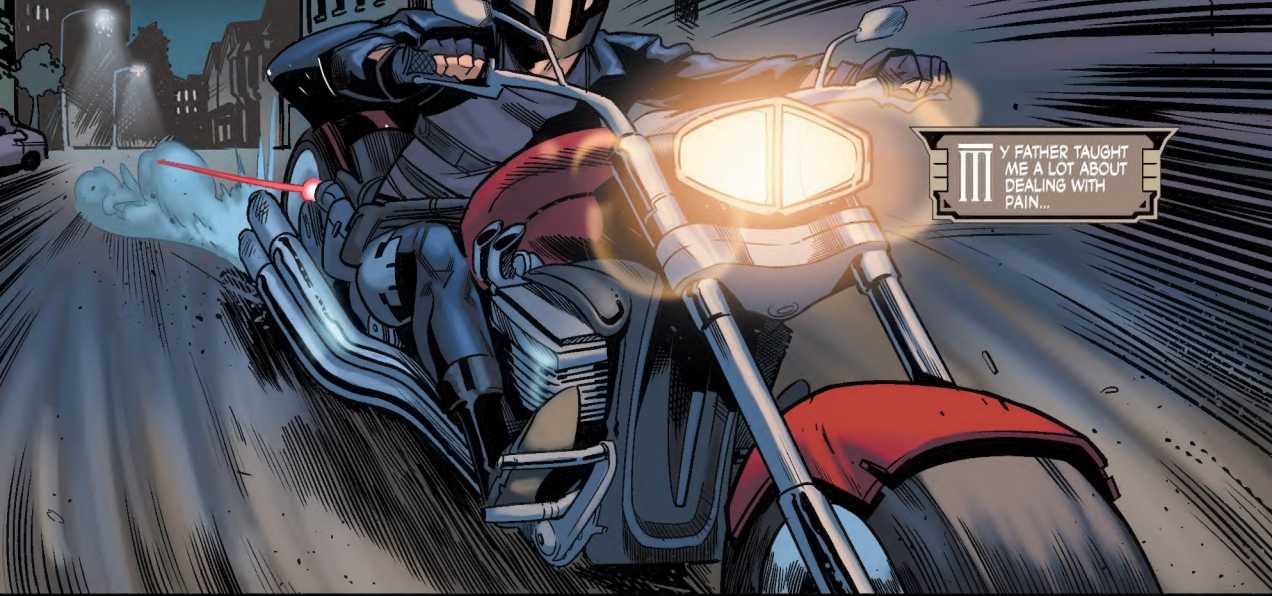
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Y FATHER TAUGHT
ME A LOT ABOUT
DEALING WITH
PAIN...

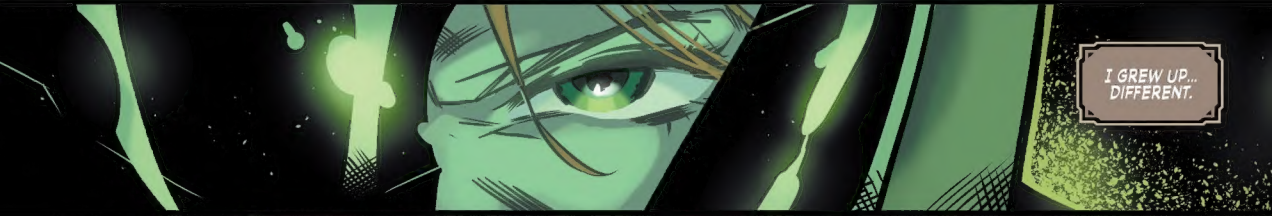


HE WAS
MY HERO.

GO
ON.



I GUESS YOU KNOW
I DIDN'T HAVE THE
MOST NORMAL OF
CHILDHOODS.



I GREW UP...
DIFFERENT.



BUT, I'M NOT
THE PROBLEM...

...IT'S ALL
OF THEM.

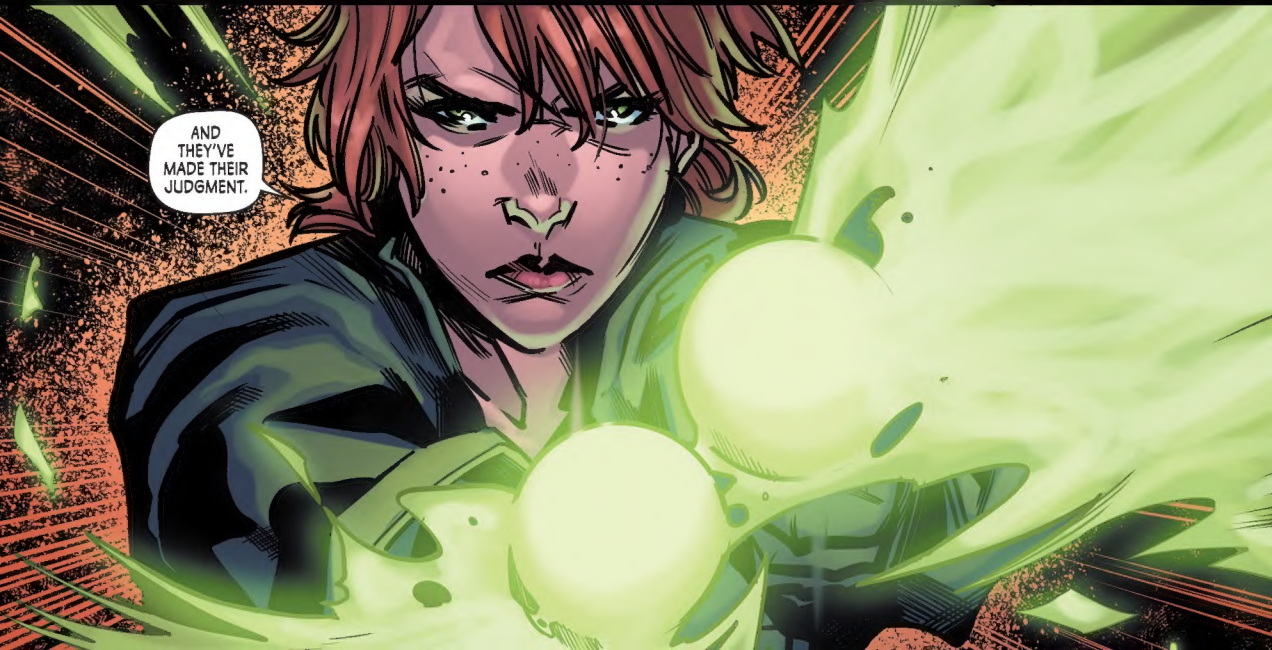




ATTACK!

I GUESS YOU
COULD SAY IT
WAS ALL FORCED
UPON ME....





THEN.

PURITY.

IT IS THEIR
DESIRE FOR SUCH,
WHICH CONSUMES
THEIR SOUL...

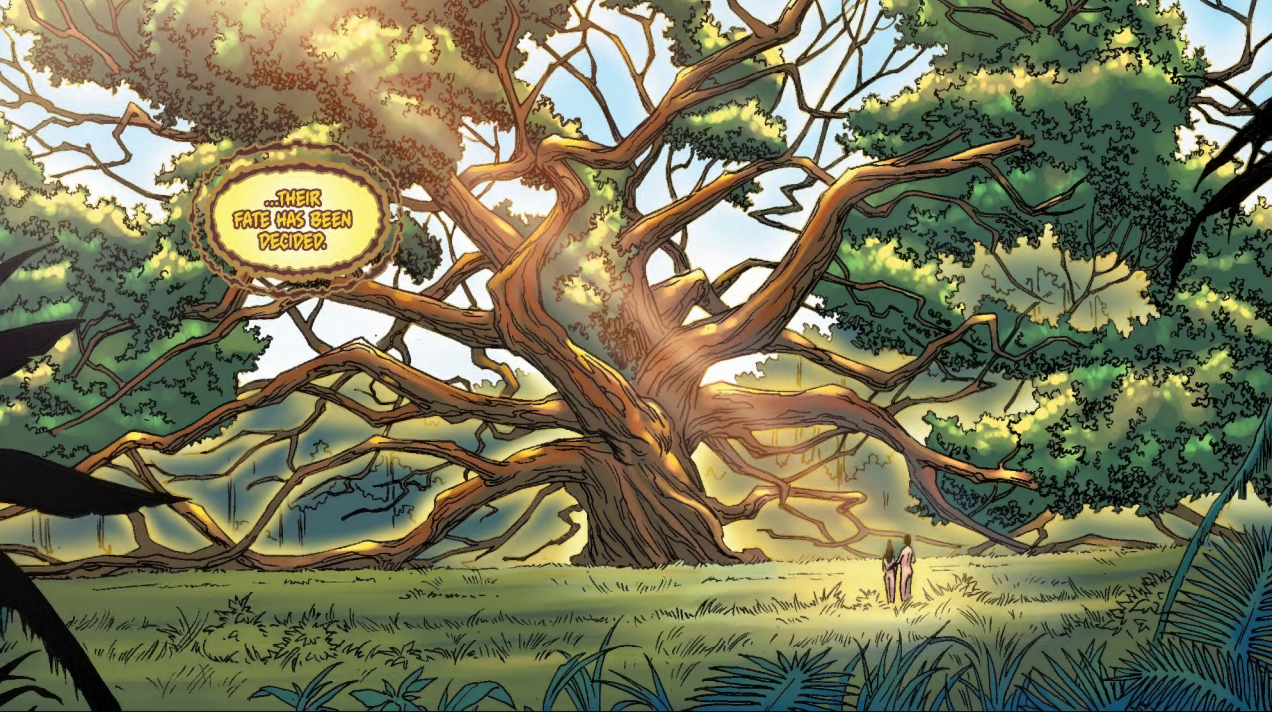
...DEEP IN
THEIR HEARTS
THEY YEARN
FOR IT...

...HUMANITY!

KRUNCH!

THEY
SEEK TO
BE FREE OF
SIN.

YET, THIS
IS NOT THEIR
FATE...



...THEIR
FATE HAS BEEN
DECIDER.



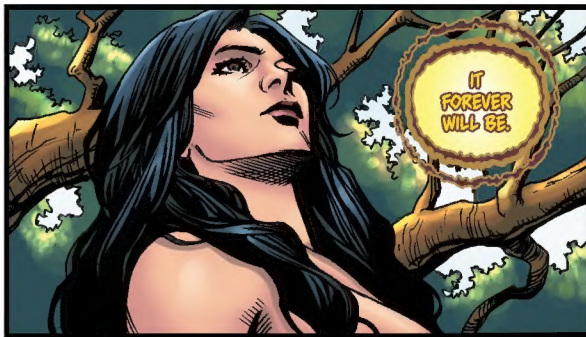
...FOR THEY
LACK THE ABILITY
TO DECIDE...



...IT MUST
BE CHOSEN
FOR THEM.



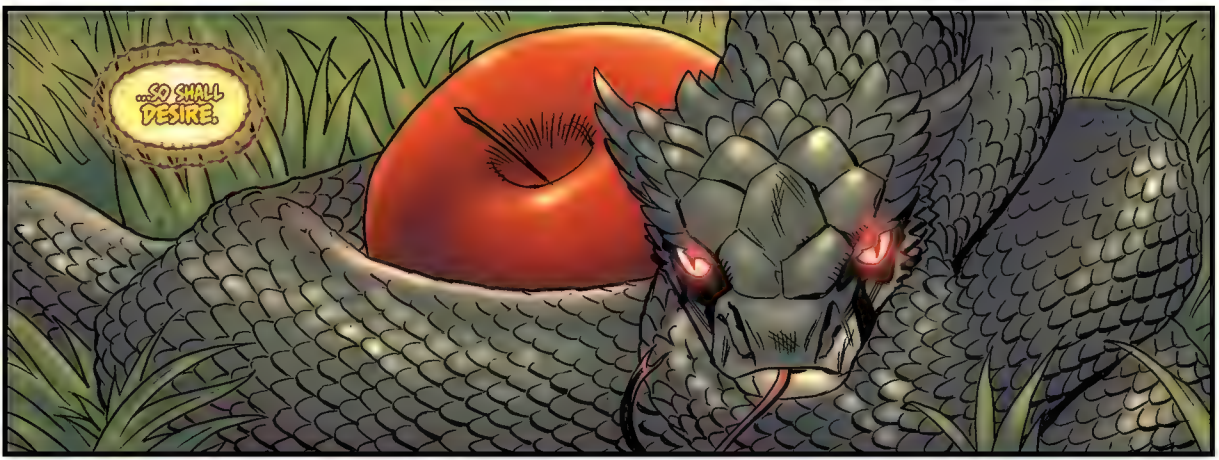
IT IS MY
CHOICE.



IT
FOREVER
WILL BE.



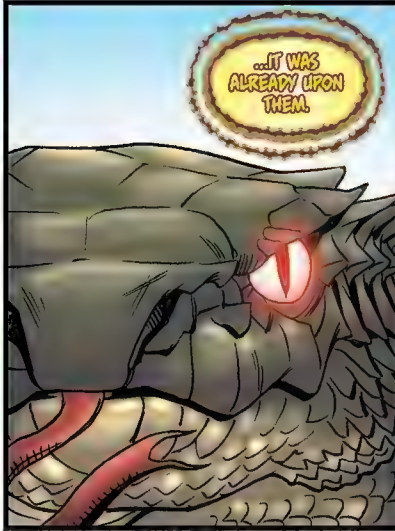
FOR AS
LONG AS MANKIND
DRAWS BREATH...



...SO SHALL
DESIRE.



...THEY SOUGHT
PURITY, YET IN
THEIR HASTE DID
NOT REALIZE...



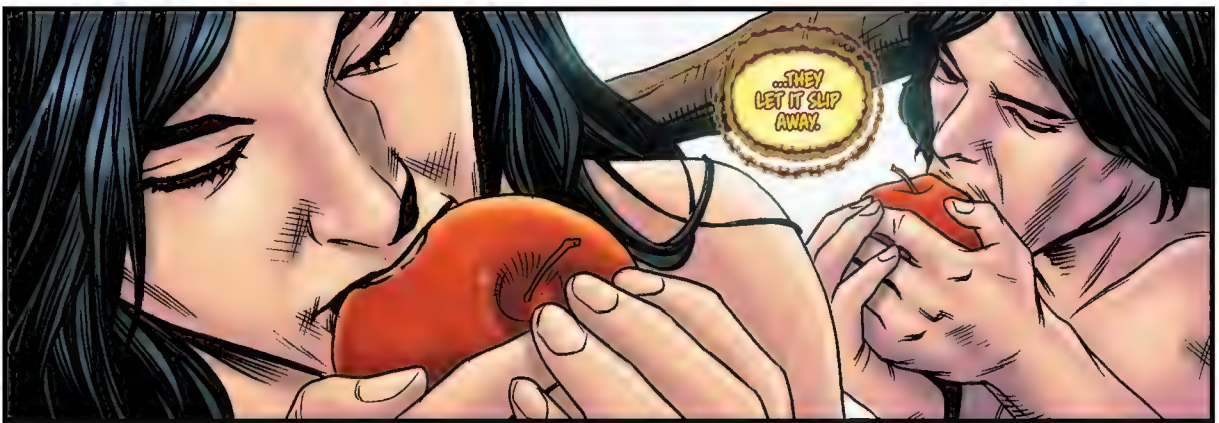
...IT WAS
ALREADY UPON
THEM.

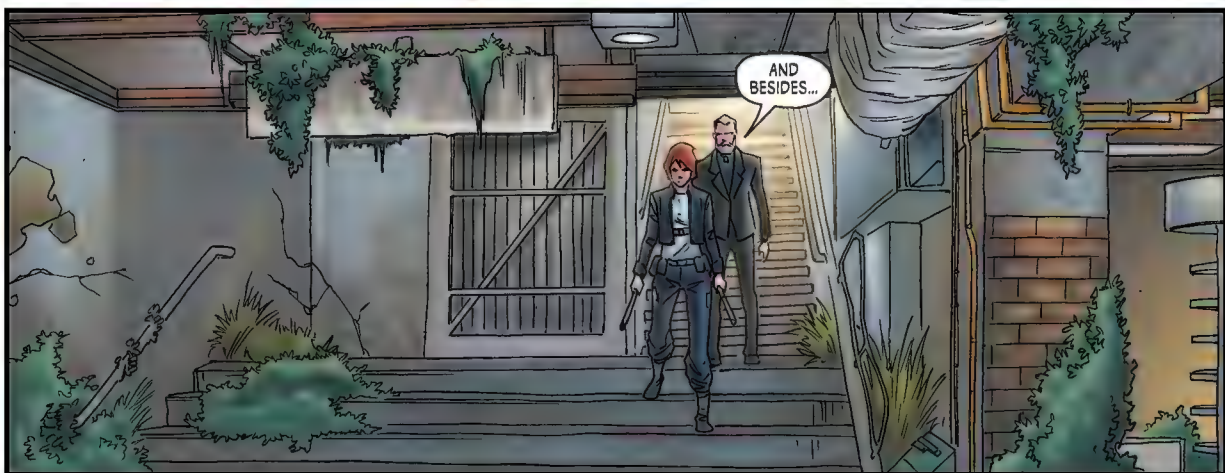
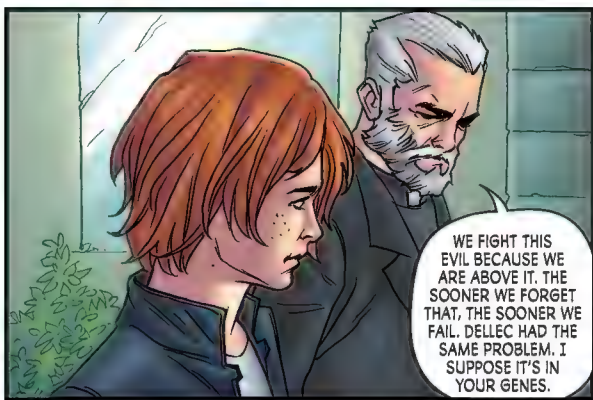


AND, IN THEIR
DECISION...



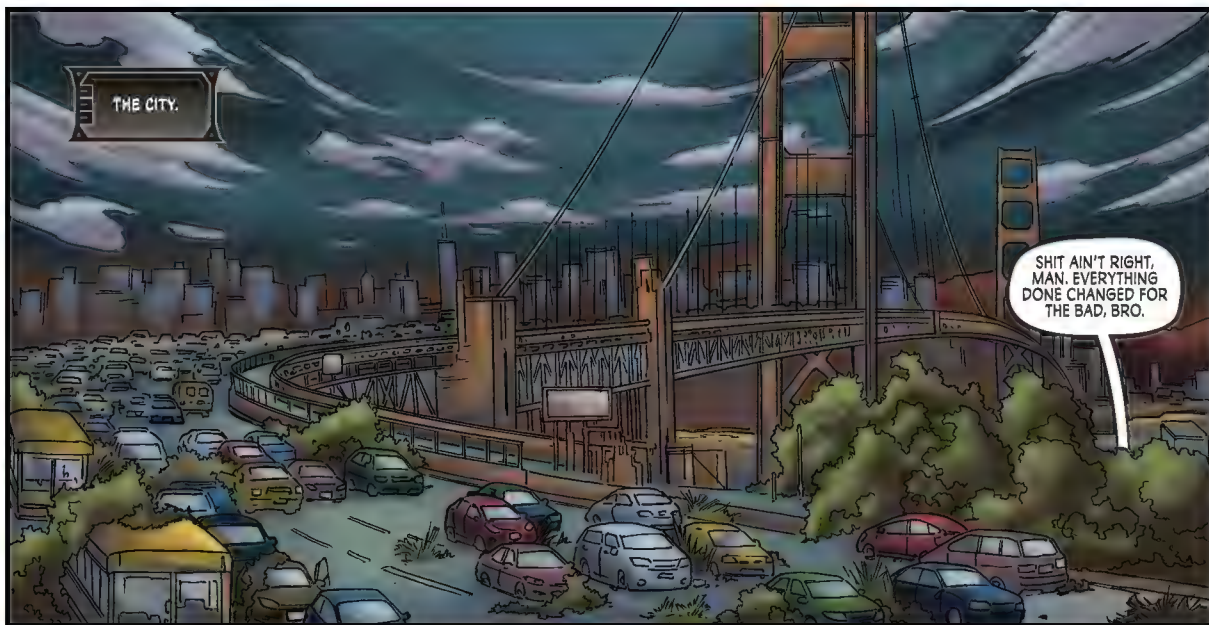
...THEY
LET IT SLIP
AWAY.







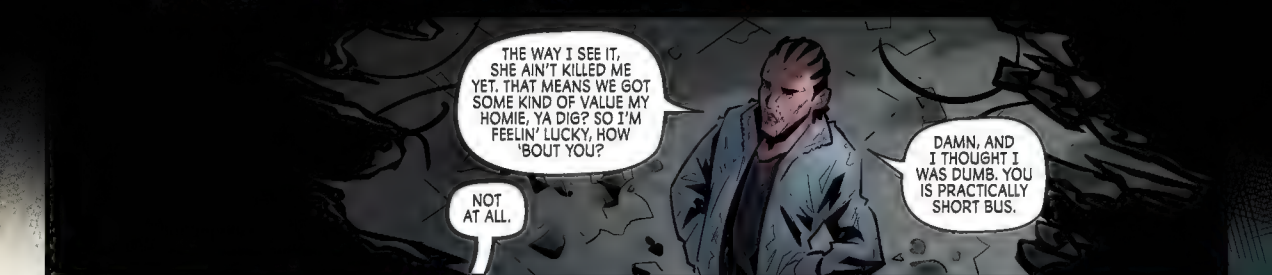
THIS TIME,
WE'RE NOT
ALONE.





WE
PRISONERS,
PLAIN AND
SIMPLE.

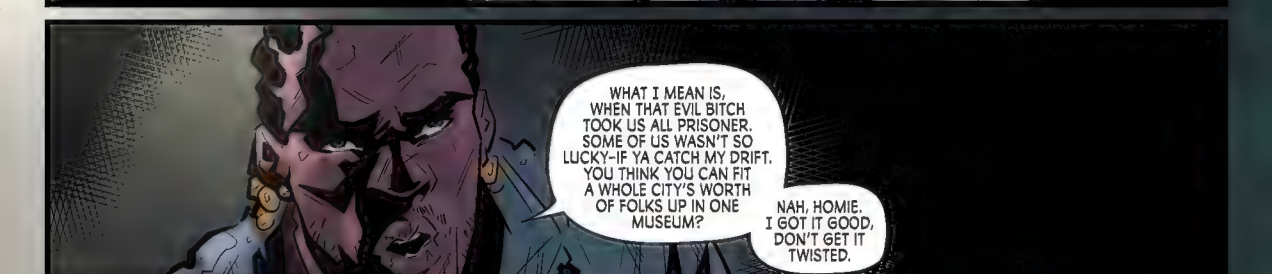
THE WOMAN
UPSTAIRS WILL
NEVER LET US
ESCAPE.



THE WAY I SEE IT,
SHE AIN'T KILLED ME
YET. THAT MEANS WE GOT
SOME KIND OF VALUE MY
HOMIE, YA DIG? SO I'M
FEELIN' LUCKY, HOW
'BOUT YOU?

NOT
AT ALL.

DAMN, AND
I THOUGHT I
WAS DUMB. YOU
IS PRACTICALLY
SHORT BUS.



WHAT I MEAN IS,
WHEN THAT EVIL BITCH
TOOK US ALL PRISONER.
SOME OF US WASN'T SO
LUCKY-IF YA CATCH MY DRIFT.
YOU THINK YOU CAN FIT
A WHOLE CITY'S WORTH
OF FOLKS UP IN ONE
MUSEUM?

NAH, HOMIE.
I GOT IT GOOD.
DON'T GET IT
TWISTED.



SPEAK
FOR YOURSELF,
MAN. I WANT
OUT.

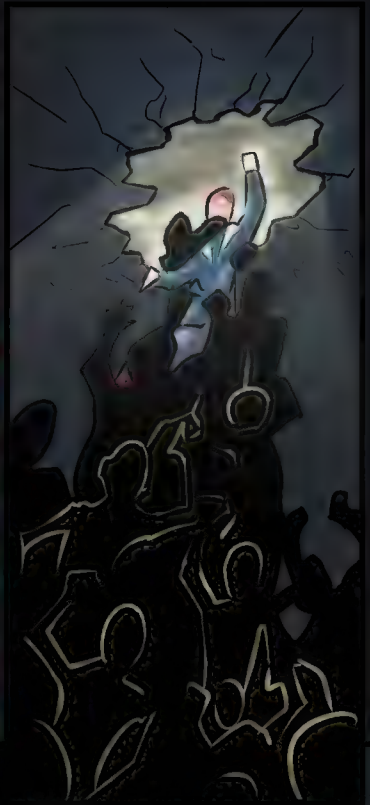


YOU
REALLY WANT
OUT?

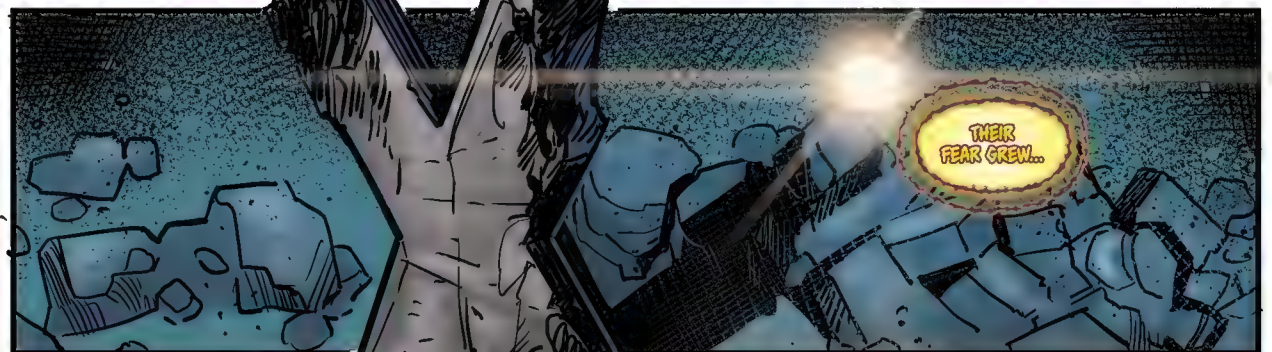
WHAT
HAVE I BEEN
SAYING?!

AHIT,
THEN....

THREEEEEEEEEEE!









WHO WOULD
SEEK TO CHALLENGE
MY REIGN...



...AND
SET THEIR OWN
PATH.



I ALLOWED
THEIR EXISTENCE...



UNNH...
WHERE...?

FOR WITH SUCH
RESISTANCE...

THUD

WELCOME
HOME,
DELEC...

STRAYER?

...THERE MUST
ALSO BE A WAY
TO CONTAIN IT.

IT HASN'T
BEEN THE SAME
WITHOUT YOU.

TO BE CONTINUED

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DELLEC

CHAPTER 2::2

PREVIOUSLY IN:

After his violent death at the hands of Tera, Dellec miraculously appeared at the site of Father Strayer's destroyed Church, unaware of how he returned. However, there was no time to figure it out, as a new foe emerged—armed with savage, bloodthirsty creatures. Meanwhile, his daughter Andy has been carrying on the fight for Dellec's quest against The Creator, yet her method of violence has led Strayer to question her judgment...

It is in dying that we awake to eternal life.

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DELLEC™ Vol. 2 Issue 2 OCTOBER 2018. DIGITAL COPY.

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DELLEC.

I'D SAY IT'S A
THRILL TO FINALLY
MEET YOU, BUT IN ALL
HONESTY--I KNEW
THIS DAY WOULD
ALWAYS COME.

DON'T
MIND THE PUPS.
THEY'RE HARD-WIRED
TO PROTECT THEIR
MASTER.



THIS...
THIS ISN'T
EARTH.

WELL,
YOU'RE
RIGHT ABOUT
THAT...



...AT LEAST NOT
ANY EARTH YOU
REMEMBER...

"ALL YOU TWO HAD TO DO WAS
GO ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS
AND KEEP THE FAITH STRONG.

"BUT, YOU HAD OTHER
IDEAS AND LOOK HOW THAT
TURNED OUT FOR YOU.

"WITHOUT ANY REAL THREAT TO
HER DOMINANCE, TERA WAS
LEFT TO HER OWN DEVICES.

"HER SOUL CREATURES QUICKLY
TOOK DOWN CITIES AT WILL.

"BUT FAITH IS A DELICATE BALANCE
AND SHE WENT TOO FAR. AND
PEOPLE STOPPED BELIEVING IN OUR
GOOD LORD FOR SALVATION. THEY
DECIDED TO MAKE THEIR OWN.

"IT'S LIKE OWNING A CASINO. IF THE
HOUSE ALWAYS WINS, THE CUSTOMERS
STOP SHOWING. CHURCH IS NO
DIFFERENT. YOU GOTTA GIVE 'EM A
LITTLE BIT OF HOPE TO CLING ON TO.



THAT'S WHERE
I COME IN. IT'S
TIME TO LEVEL THE
PLAYING FIELD
AND START
OVER.

WHOEVER
YOU ARE--
YOU ARE NOT
GOD.

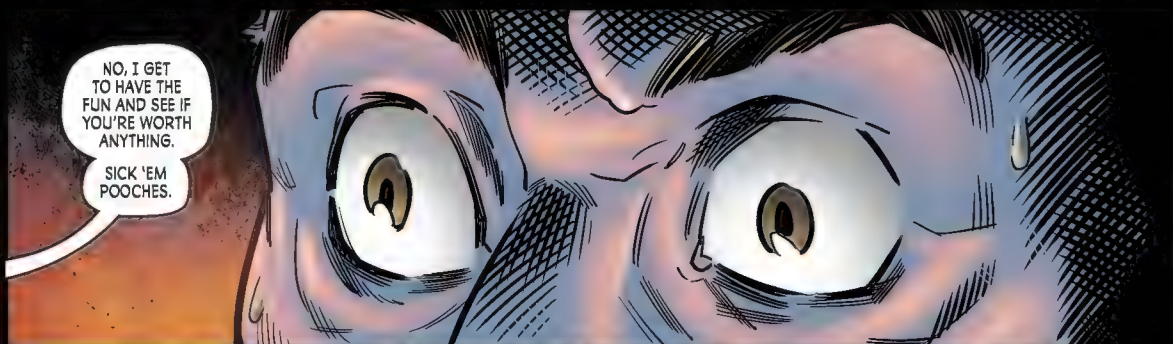
OH, LOOK AT THAT.
EXCUSE MY RUDENESS.
NO, OF COURSE NOT. I'M
NO LORD, I'M A DIFFERENT
TYPE OF BEING. CONSIDER
ME MORE LIKE...*THE*
HANDS OF GOD.



I KNOW YOU
HAVE QUESTIONS. OF
COURSE YOU DO. LIKE
HOW YOU'RE STANDING
HERE AGAIN AFTER YOU
WERE... WELL, YOU
KNOW.

BUT WE BOTH
KNOW THE MAN
UPSTAIRS GAVE YOU A
REPRIEVE. FOR WHAT-
EVER REASON? THAT
AIN'T MY BAG.

SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF



NO, I GET
TO HAVE THE
FUN AND SEE IF
YOU'RE WORTH
ANYTHING.

SICK 'EM
POOCHES.

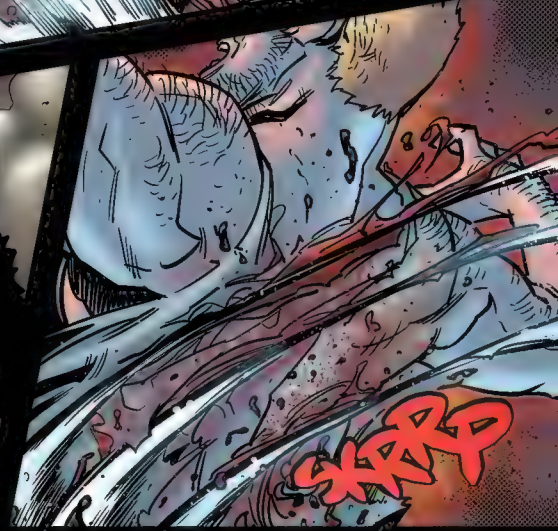


GRAAAHHHHHHH

CHOMP!



STAY
BACK!



RRP



ARRRGHH!

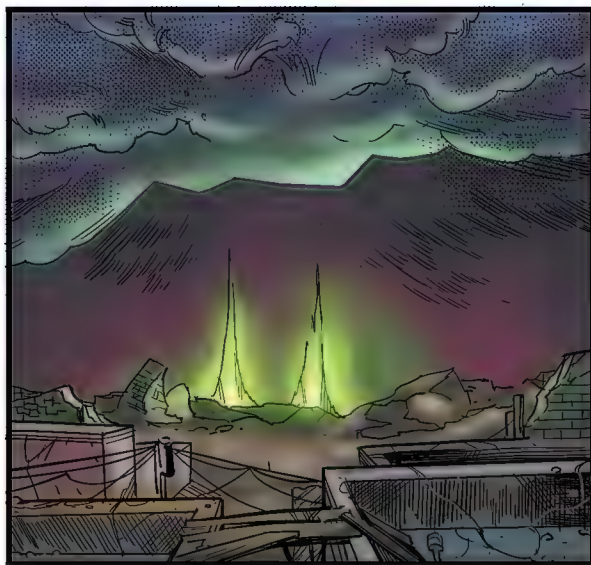
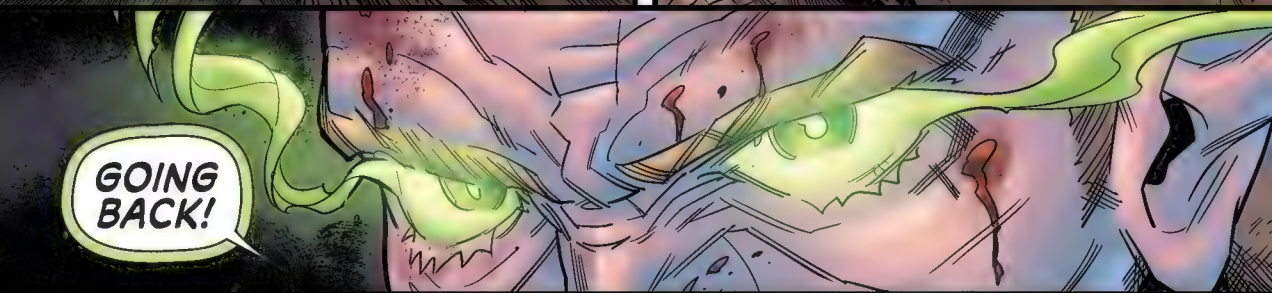
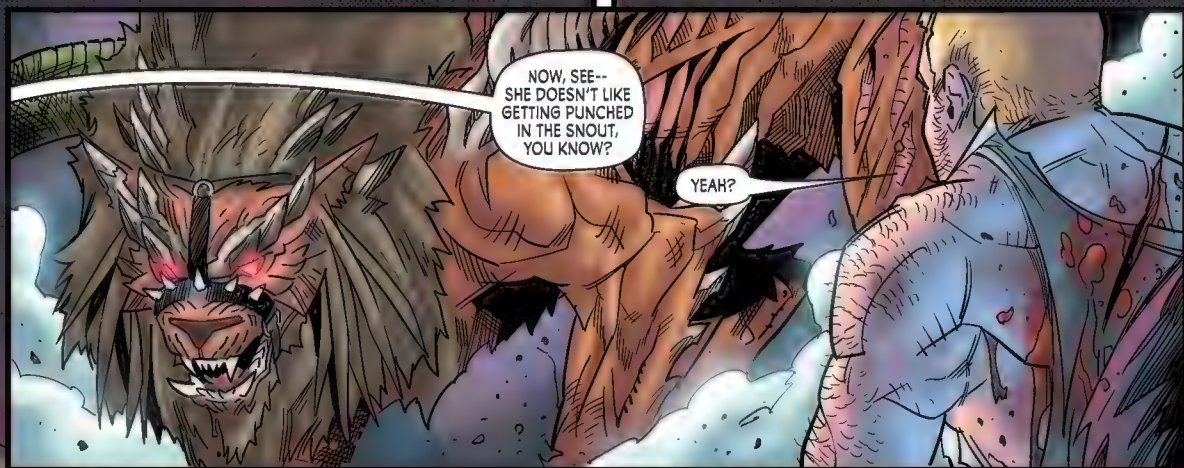


RRP

RRP



HRRAAAH!

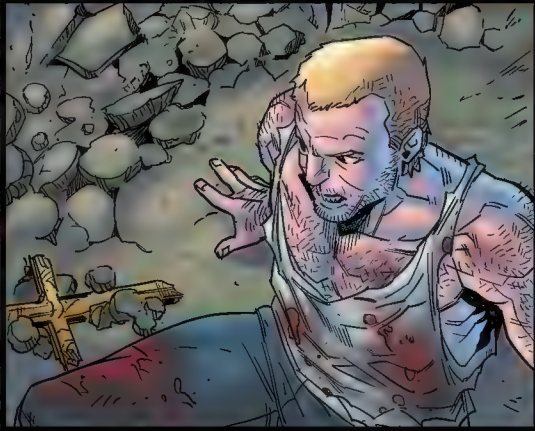




WELL,
WELL,
WELL.

LOOKS LIKE
YOU'VE LEARNED A
FEW NEW TRICKS SINCE
YOU PASSED THROUGH THE
AFTERLIFE. IT'S AMAZING WHAT
WE CAN ACTUALLY DO ONCE
THE BIG GUY IN THE SKY GIVES
US THE KNOWLEDGE,
RIGHT?

BUT YOU'RE
LUCKY MY DOGS
HAVE...HEALING
POWERS OF
THEIR OWN.

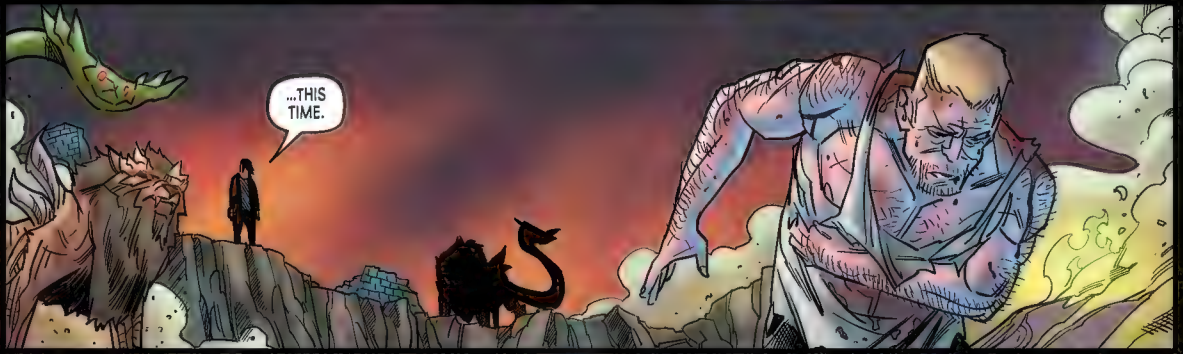


TRY ME
AGAIN, AND
I WON'T HOLD
BACK NEXT
TIME.



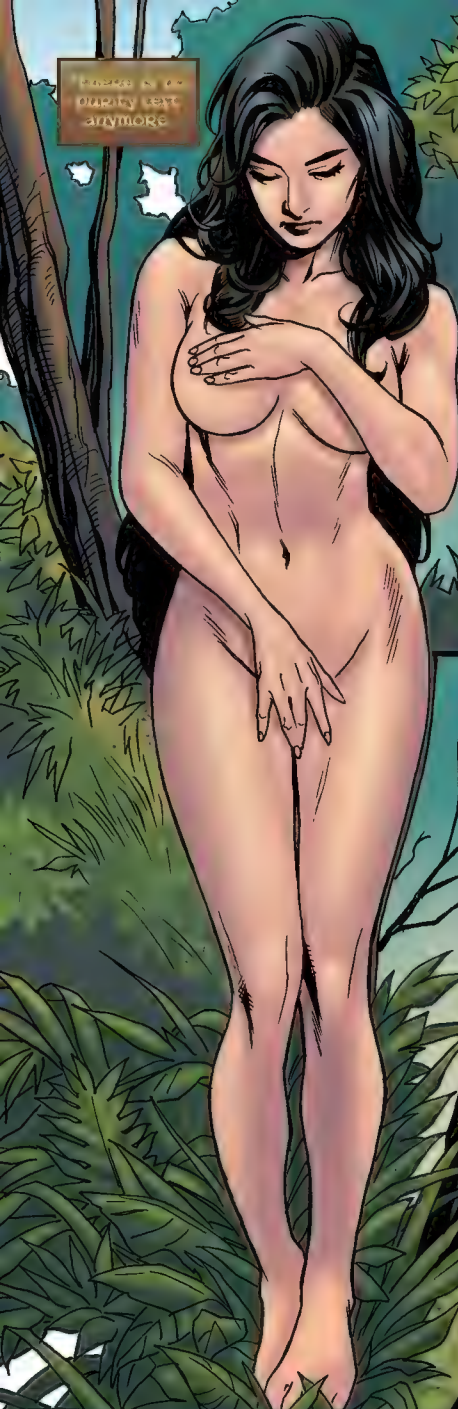
EASY, DELLEC.
THEY'RE NOT
VAMPIRES.

YOU PROVED
YOUR METTLE. AS
LONG AS YOU STEER
CLEAR OF WHAT
WE'RE DOING HERE,
I'LL LET YOU
ESCAPE...



...THIS
TIME.

There is no
purity left
anymore

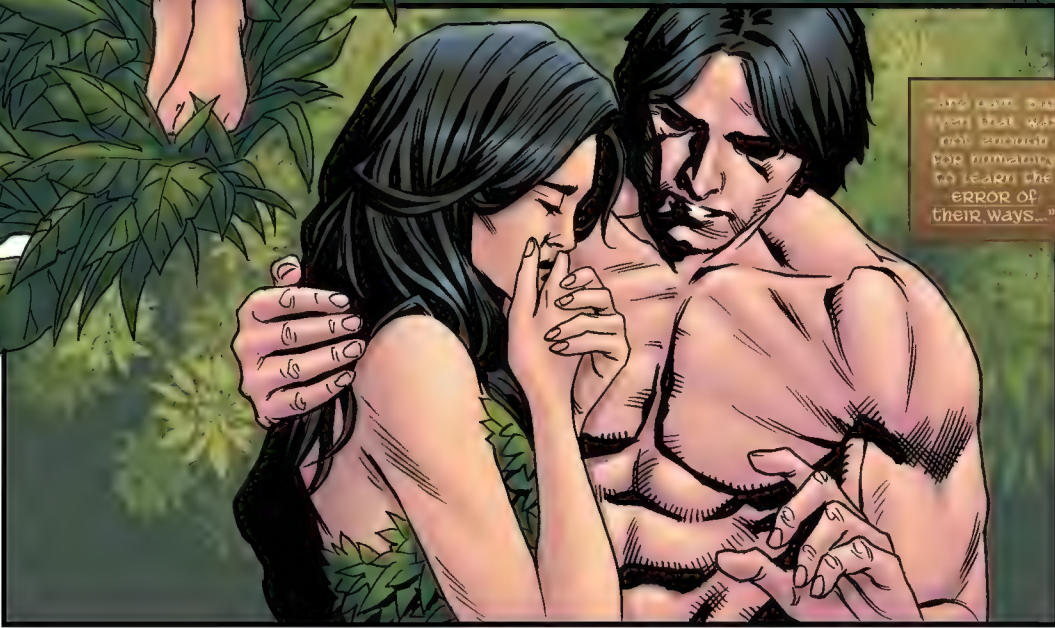


You had it all, and you still
lost even a moment before
discovering the allure of
sin. Really, you do have no
one to blame but yourself.
It was just a stupid apple.

But, at
least you
learned
shame

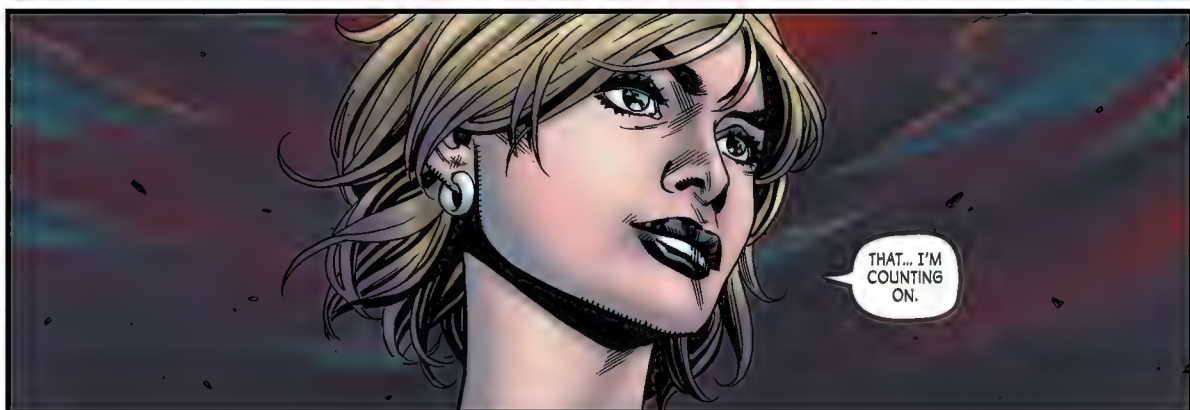
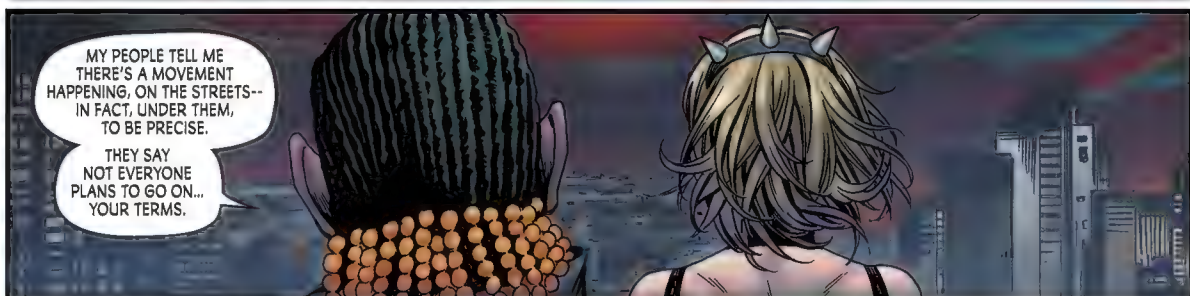
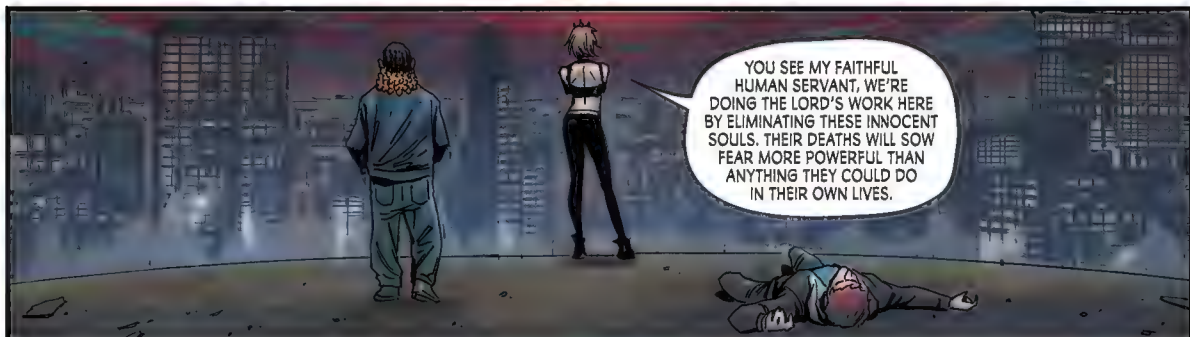


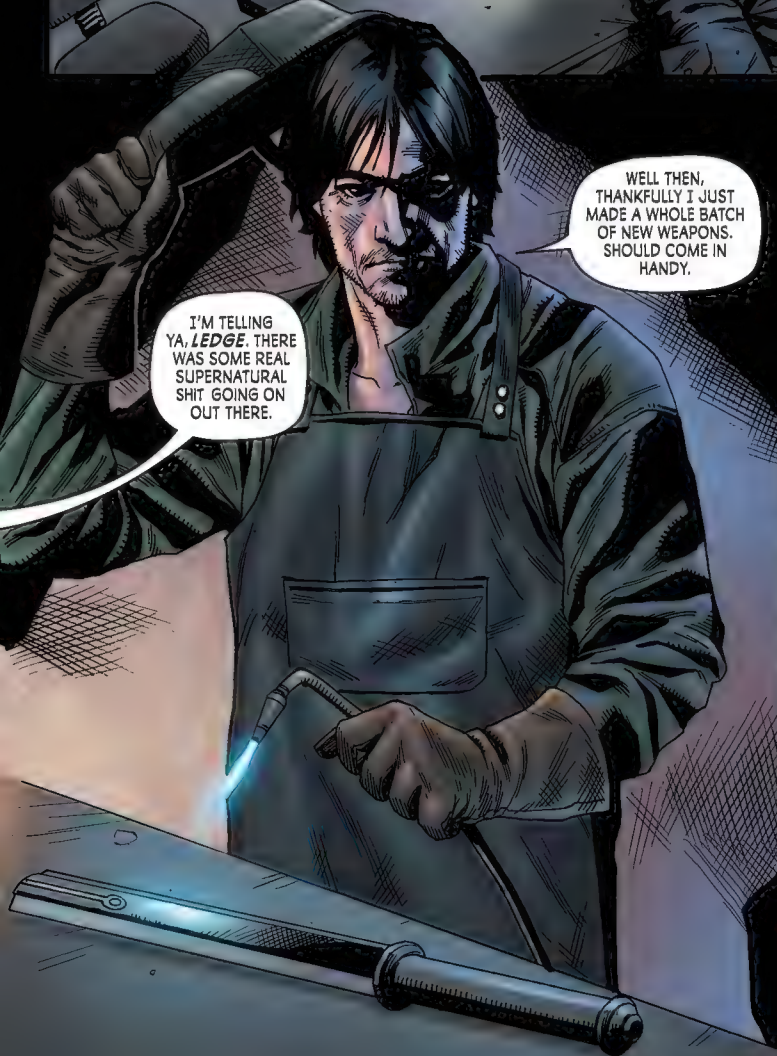
And even the
love that was
not enough
for humanity
to learn the
error of
their ways...



...SO NOW IT'S
ON ME TO
MAKE UP THE
DIFFERENCE.









CITY ZOO.

OOH OOH!

ENOUGH WITH
THESE STRAYER AMBUSHES!
THAT GIRL COST US TWO TRUCK-
LOADS OF PRECIOUS CARGO!
IT'S TIME *THE KONGS* TOOK
THE FIGHT TO THEM!*

OOOH OOOH OOOH!

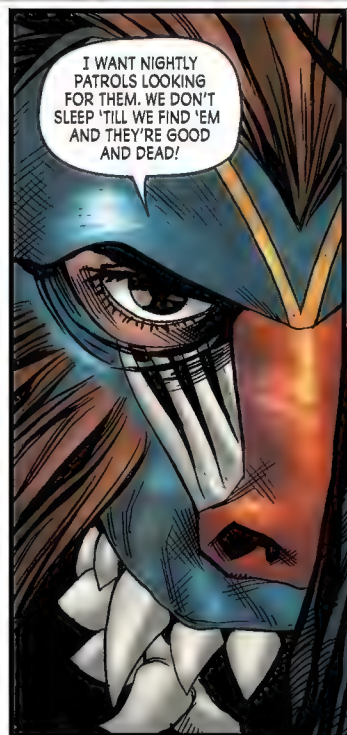
OOOH OOOH OOOH!

OOOH OOOH OOOH!

OOOH OOOH OOOH!

OOOH OOOH OOOH!

*EDITOR'S NOTE:
SEE ISSUE ONE.



I WANT NIGHTLY
PATROLS LOOKING
FOR THEM. WE DON'T
SLEEP 'TILL WE FIND 'EM
AND THEY'RE GOOD
AND DEAD!



WE GOT
COMPANY!



KONGS--
WEAPONS
READY!



COME
OUT, COME
OUT WHEREVER
YOU--

--ARRRRRRGGGGGGGGHHH!

RUUUUN!

WHAT THE
HELL ARE THOSE
THINGS?!

NOT
QUITE,
MY APE-ISH
FRIEND...



...MORE
LIKE HEAVEN
CALLS.

YOU
KNOW
WHO YOU'RE
F**KING
WITH?!

I CAN PUT
TWO AND TWO
TOGETHER. MONKEY
MAN. REAL GREAT
THEME YOU HAVE
GOING HERE.
I DIG IT.

BUT, WE'RE
CLEANING HOUSE.
ACCORDING TO THE
LAWS OF THE LAND.
YOU CATCH MY
DRIFT?

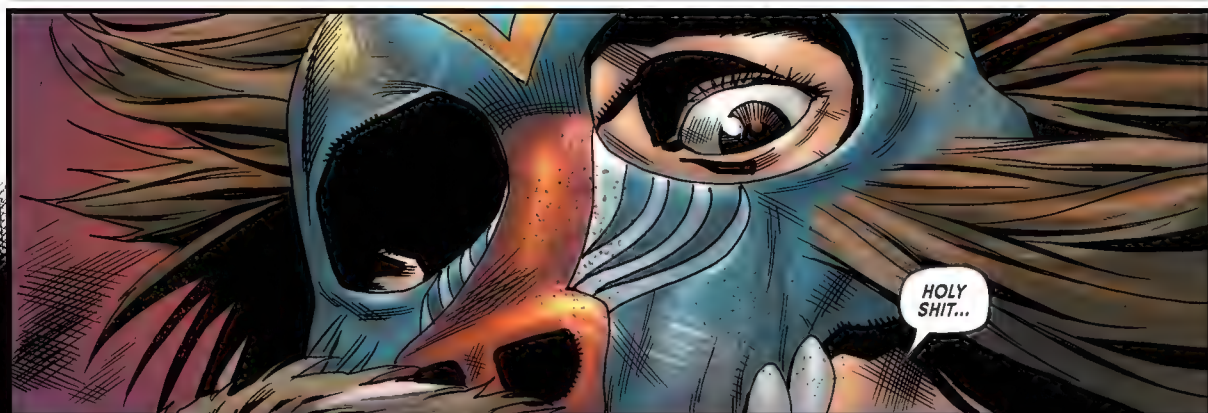
YOU THINK
A COUPLE LARGE
DOGS WILL STOP US?!
WE GOT TROOPS
FOR DAYS.

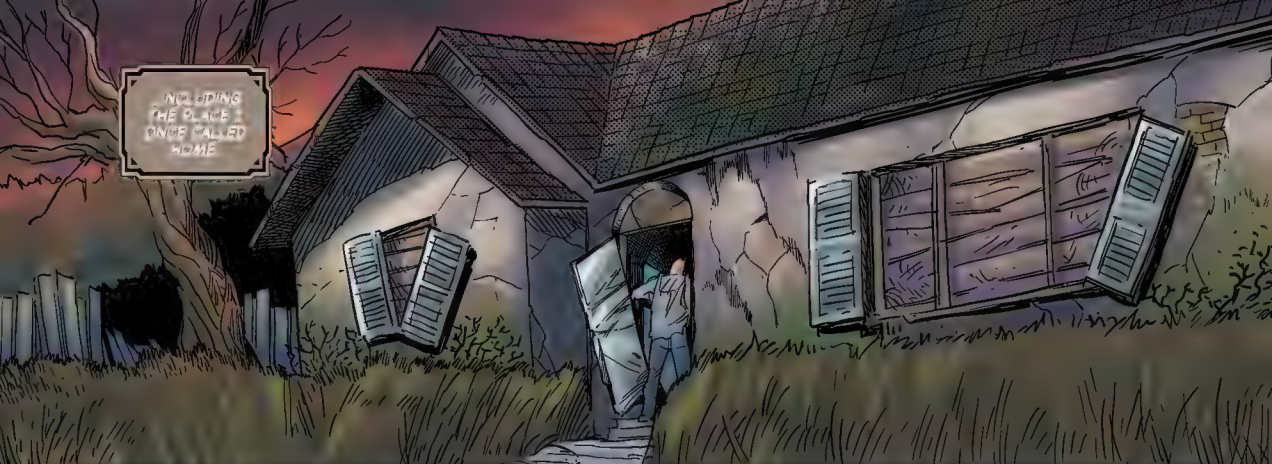


GET
'EM!!!

SO, NO--YOU
DIDN'T CATCH
MY DRIFT.







INCLUDING
THE PLACE I
ONCE CALLED
HOME



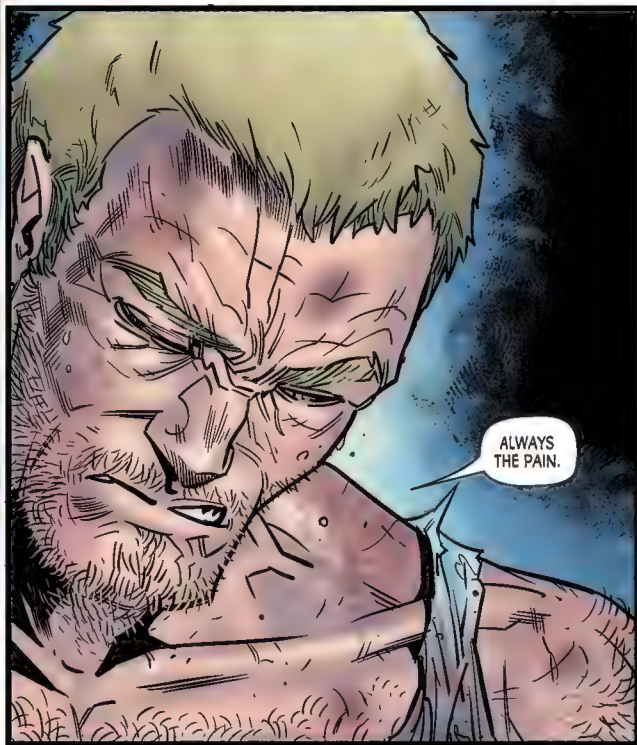
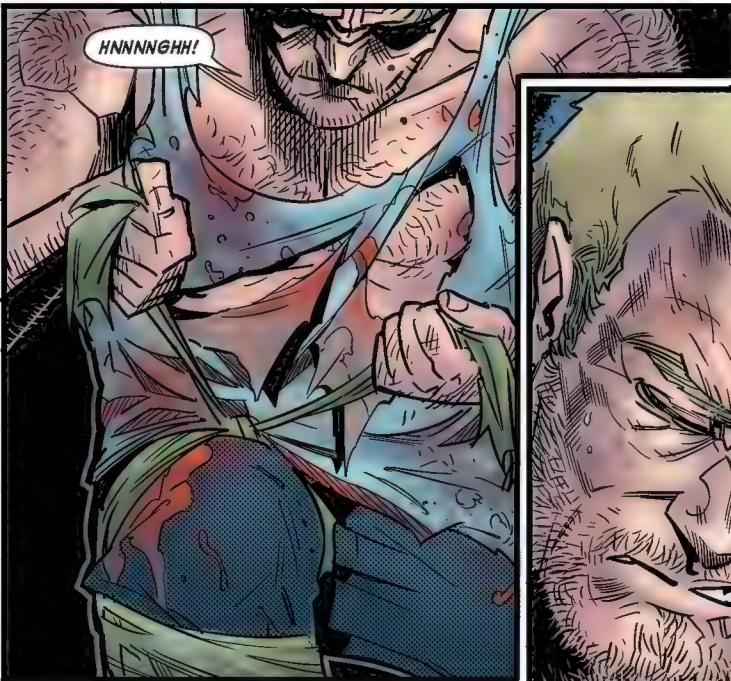
HOW LONG
COULD I HAVE
BEEN DEAD?

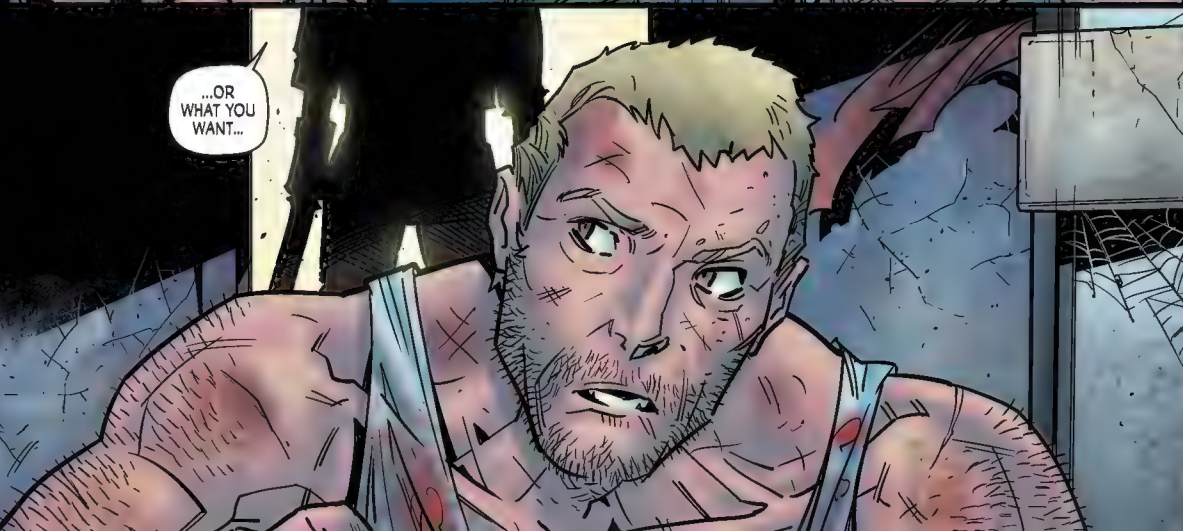
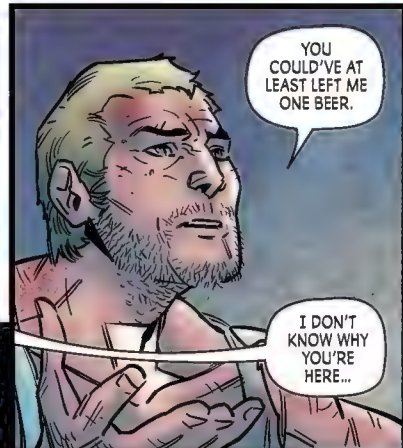
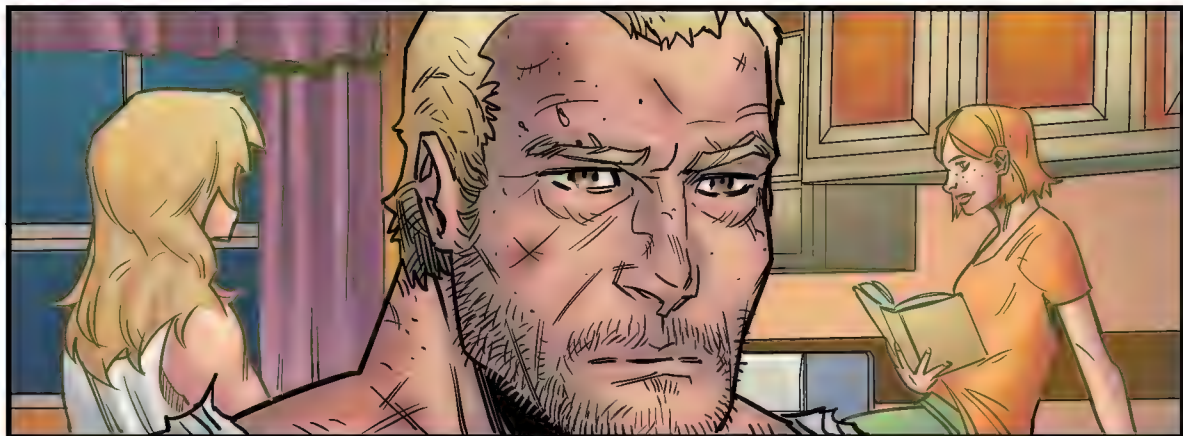


I'M BACK, BUT
EVERYTHING
IS GONE



EXCEPT OF COURSE
THE PAIN







BUT,
MY FATHER
WAS KILLED A
DECADE AGO.
IMPOSTER.

TO BE CONTINUED

DELTA

**THE HANDS
OF GOD
VERSUS
TERA...**

#3

**...IN A
BATTLE OF
BIBLICAL
PROPORTIONS!**



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BONUS FATHOM STORY!

Check out PART TWO of
Michael Turner's Original Fathom #0...

MANY OF THEM HAVE
VERY SPECIAL TACTICS
FOR ATTACKING PREY
OR DEFENDING AGAINST
PREDATORS.

SOME HUNTERS HAVE
POISONOUS BITES THAT WILL
INCAPACITATE PREY FOR THEIR
LEISURELY CONSUMPTION.
SOME OCTOPUS, SQUID OR
ANEMONES DISAPPEAR IN
A CLOUD OF INK TO EVADE
A PREDATOR.

THE MOST
VICIOUS KILLERS
ALERT THEIR
ENEMIES WITH
DISTINCTIVE
MARKINGS OR
VENOMOUS SPINES,
AS IF TO SHOW
THE VICTIMS THAT
IT'S ALREADY
TOO LATE.



AN AMBUSH
HAS BEGUN!

HERE, THE MOST
DEADLY ATTACKS
OCCUR IN
NUMBERS.

AFTER ALL, A GROUP OF PREDATORS
ATTACKING ALL AT ONCE CAN BE
DECIDEDLY MORE DANGEROUS THAN
A LONE HUNTER.

THERE IS
STRENGTH
IN NUMBERS...

AND
CHAOS.

AH,
TO BE DOWN
THERE NOW.

HERE
IS NOT
BAD.

BUT BEING
ON THE WATER IS
MUCH DIFFERENT
THAN BEING
UNDER IT.

WHEN I WAS
SIXTEEN, I WENT
SCUBA DIVING
FOR THE FIRST
TIME.

MY INSTRUCTOR
HAD ABOUT EIGHT
OF US IN THE CLASS
ON THE FIRST DAY
AND WAS SHOWING US
VERY BASIC SKILLS
LIKE HOW TO CLEAR
THE REGULATOR AND
HOW TO KEEP YOUR
MASK FROM
FOGGING.

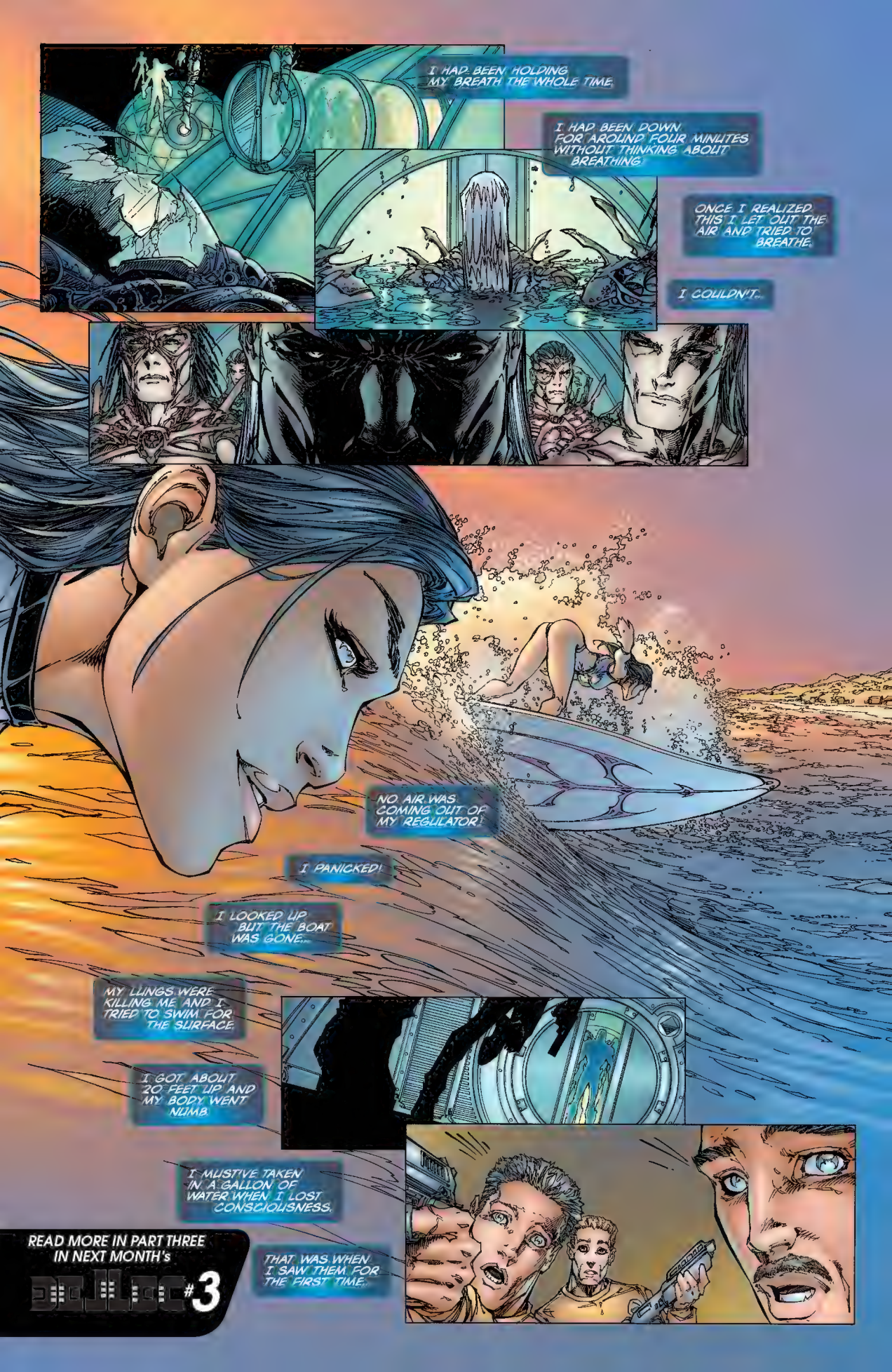
WHILE HE WAS
BUSY WITH SEVERAL
OF THE OTHERS, I
DECIDED TO GIVE IT
A TRY ON MY
OWN—I'VE NEVER
BEEN THE TYPE TO
WAIT FOR THE
GROUP.

WITH ALL MY GEAR,
I JUMPED OFF THE BOAT
AND WENT STRAIGHT TO
THE BOTTOM. WE WERE
ONLY IN ABOUT 40 FEET
OF WATER BUT A LOT CAN
GO WRONG EVEN IN
TEN FEET.

AT FIRST IT
WAS INCREDIBLE.

I WAS SWIMMING
ALONG THE SIDE OF
A REEF, THOUSANDS
OF FISH WERE
PARTING BY ME.

I WAS JUST
GETTING COMFORTABLE
WHEN I NOTICED
SOMETHING STRANGE.



I HAD BEEN HOLDING
MY BREATH THE WHOLE TIME.

I HAD BEEN DOWN
FOR AROUND FOUR MINUTES
WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT
BREATHING.

ONCE I REALIZED
THIS I LET OUT THE
AIR AND TRIED TO
BREATHE.

I COULDN'T.

NO AIR WAS
COMING OUT OF
MY REGULATOR!

I PANICKED!

I LOOKED UP
BUT THE BOAT
WAS GONE.

MY LUNGS WERE
KILLING ME AND I
TRIED TO SWIM FOR
THE SURFACE.

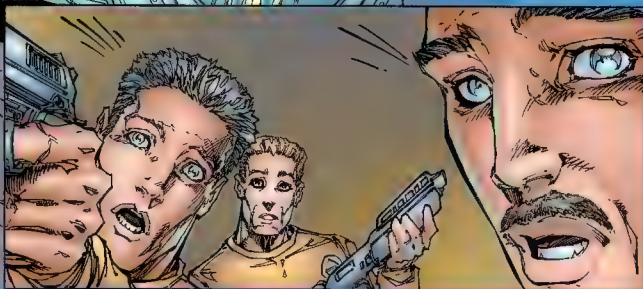
I GOT ABOUT
20 FEET UP AND
MY BODY WENT
NUMB.

I MUST'VE TAKEN
IN A GALLON OF
WATER WHEN I LOST
CONSCIOUSNESS.

READ MORE IN PART THREE
IN NEXT MONTH'S

DOJLOC #3

THAT WAS WHEN
I SAW THEM FOR
THE FIRST TIME.



FRANK MASTROMAURO

VINCE HERNANDEZ

DELLA

#3
VOL. 2

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DEATHWATCH

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DELLEC

CHAPTER 2::3

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Dellec returned from the afterlife to a world much more hellish than any death. After fighting for his life from a new foe, The Hands of God, and his vicious demonic creatures, Dellec returned to his abandoned suburban home for a respite. However, even in the place he once called home he could not find peace—as his daughter Andy arrived ready to take his head off...

I am the resurrection and the life...

WRITTEN BY:

FRANK MASTROMAURO + VINCE HERNANDEZ

ILLUSTRATED BY:

ANDRÉ RISSO (186-185, 18-20) + MICHAEL STA. MARIA (183-181)

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by - MICAH GUNNELL



Direct Edition
by - PAULO BARRIOS

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DESIGN + PRODUCTION:

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LOGO DESIGN:

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DELLEC™ Vol. 2 Issue 3 NOVEMBER 2018. DIGITAL COPY.

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THEN.

LIFE

ONE MOMENT
YOU'RE A FATHER

LIKE
THIS?



WHAT DID I
TELL YOU
ABOUT TRIAL
AND ERROR?
GIVE IT A
TRY.

RIGHT!

IT
WORKED!

RRRRR...RRRRR...
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR!



YOU'RE PROUD
OF YOURSELF, BUT
WE STILL HAVE A LOT
OF WORK TO DO
ON THIS BIKE.

I KNOW,
DAD.



AND
FATHER

REMEMBER, EVERY
LITTLE VICTORY ALLOWS
US TO WORK TOWARDS
THE BIGGER PICTURE.

HOW
HOWEVER...



I'M THE ONE TAKING
THE LESSON



ANDY! WHAT...
NGGH...ARE YOU
DOING?!



NOTHING
SURPRISES ME
ANYMORE, CREATURE.
I'VE SEEN SHAPE-
SHIFTERS, MUTANT,
AMALGAMATIONS
YOU NAME IT.

BUT, ONE
THING IS CERTAIN
IN THIS FORSAKEN
WORLD, MY FATHER
ISN'T COMING
BACK. WHICH
MEANS...



YOU'RE AN
IMPOSTER!



ANDY!



WOULD
YOU STOP
FOR ONE
SECOND!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT HAPPENED. I WAS
KILLED AND THEN...CAME
BACK. NEARLY MURDERED
BY A MAN AND HIS SNAKE
DOGS, AND NOW MY OWN
DAUGHTER IS TRYING
TO KILL ME!

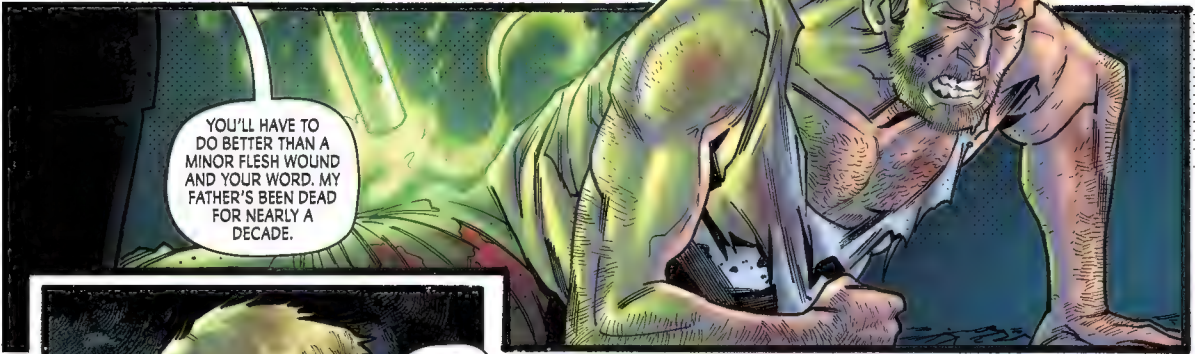


THAT BITE ON
YOUR LEG—IT'S
FRESH?

IT JUST
HAPPENED.



GOOD.



YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN A MINOR FLESH WOUND AND YOUR WORD. MY FATHER'S BEEN DEAD FOR NEARLY A DECADE.



WHAT?!
HOW LONG?



YOU HEARD ME ACOLYTE. SO YOU CAN'T BE HIM. BESIDES. THE STAFFS DON'T LIE, AND THEY DON'T LIKE YOU. TIME TO END THIS...



ANDY--
NO-- I COULD
EXPLO--



HRAAAH!



...WHAT?



I TOLD
YOU...ANDY--
IT'S ME.



IT
CAN'T BE,
THE STAFFS...
THEY--

--IT'S ME,
ANDY. I DON'T
KNOW HOW I'M BACK
BUT I AM, OKAY?
WILL YOU JUST
TRUST ME...



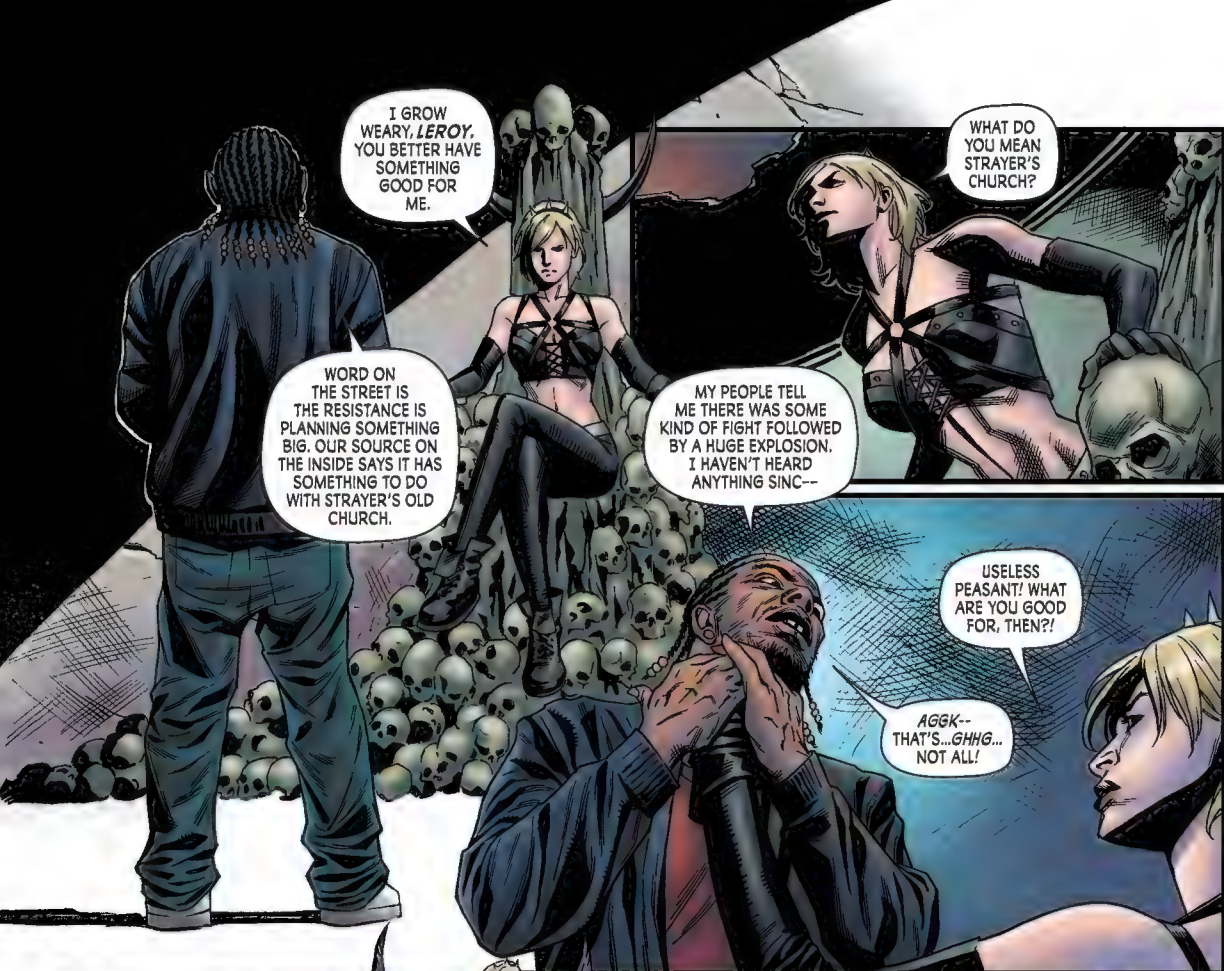
TRUST IS
SOMETHING I
LOST A LONG
TIME AGO.



DO I
NEED TO WIN
YOU ANOTHER
MONKEY DOLL
TO PROVE
IT?



DA...DAD..?



I GROW WEARY, LEROY. YOU BETTER HAVE SOMETHING GOOD FOR ME.

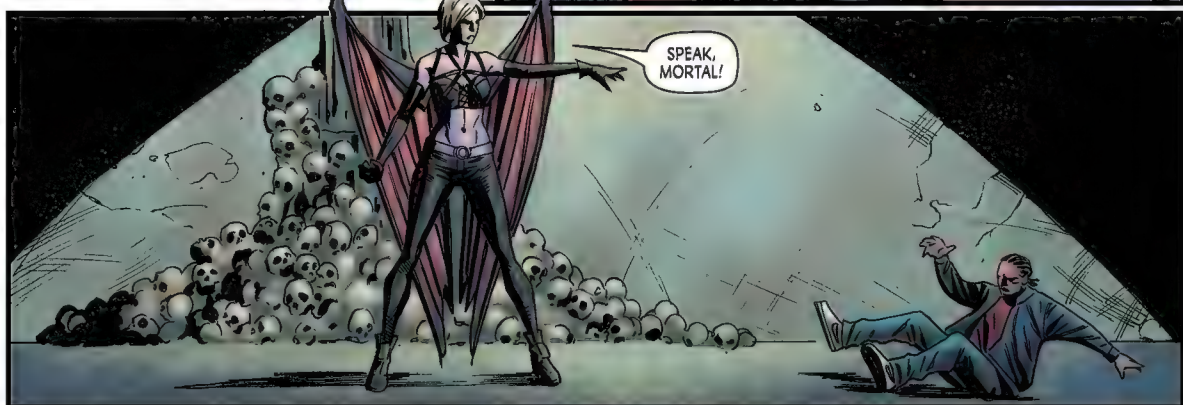
WHAT DO YOU MEAN STRAYER'S CHURCH?

WORD ON THE STREET IS THE RESISTANCE IS PLANNING SOMETHING BIG. OUR SOURCE ON THE INSIDE SAYS IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH STRAYER'S OLD CHURCH.

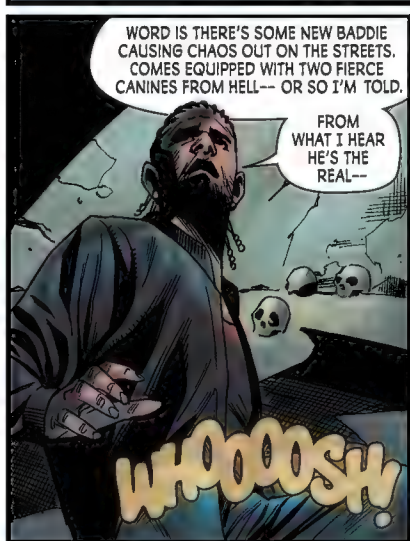
MY PEOPLE TELL ME THERE WAS SOME KIND OF FIGHT FOLLOWED BY A HUGE EXPLOSION. I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING SINCE--

USELESS PEASANT! WHAT ARE YOU GOOD FOR, THEN?!

AGGK-- THAT'S...GHHG... NOT ALL!



SPEAK, MORTAL!



WORD IS THERE'S SOME NEW BADDIE CAUSING CHAOS OUT ON THE STREETS. COMES EQUIPPED WITH TWO FIERCE CANINES FROM HELL-- OR SO I'M TOLD.

FROM WHAT I HEAR HE'S THE REAL--

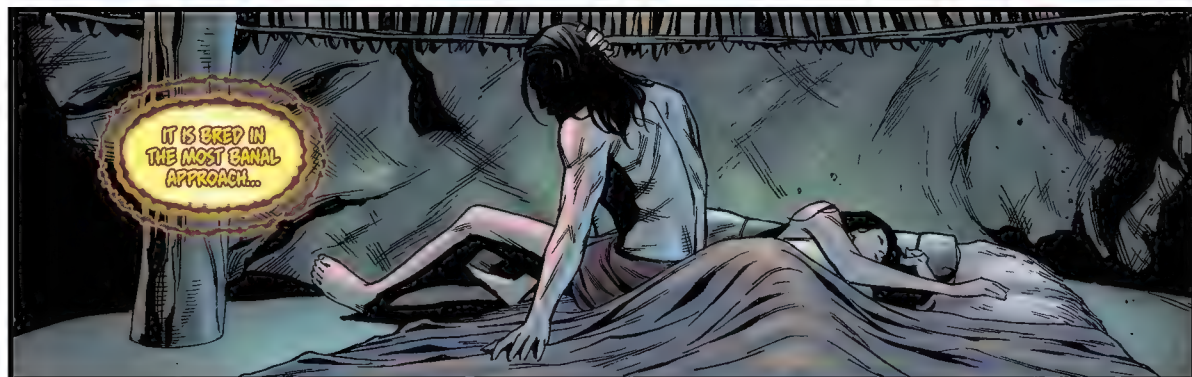
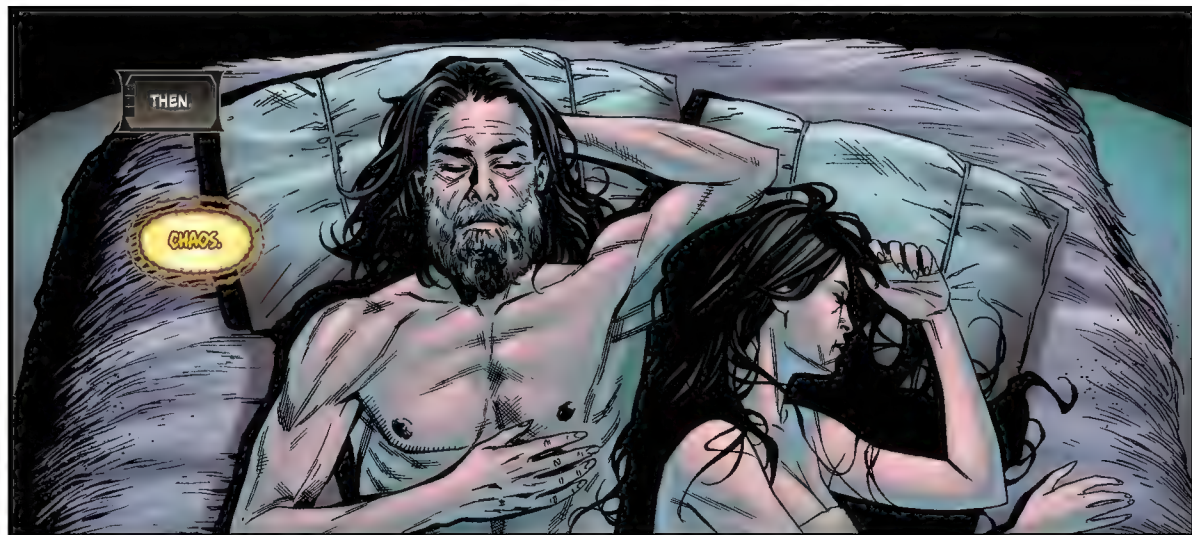
WHOOOSH!

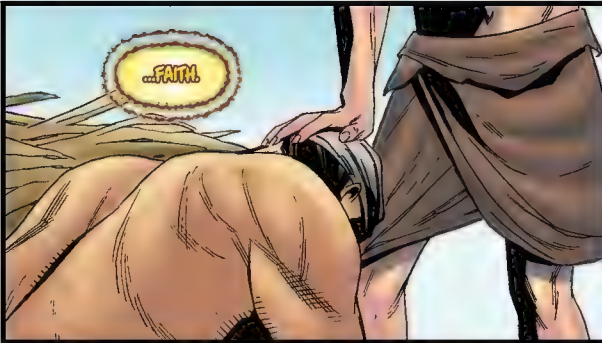
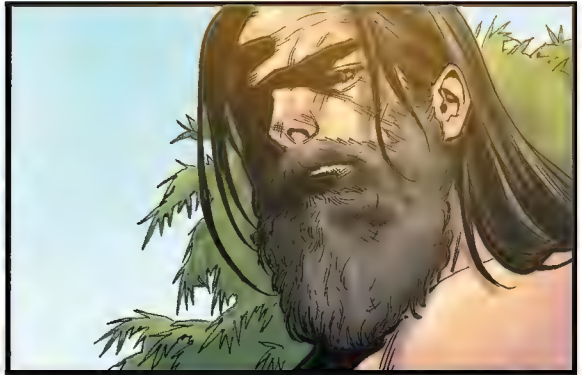
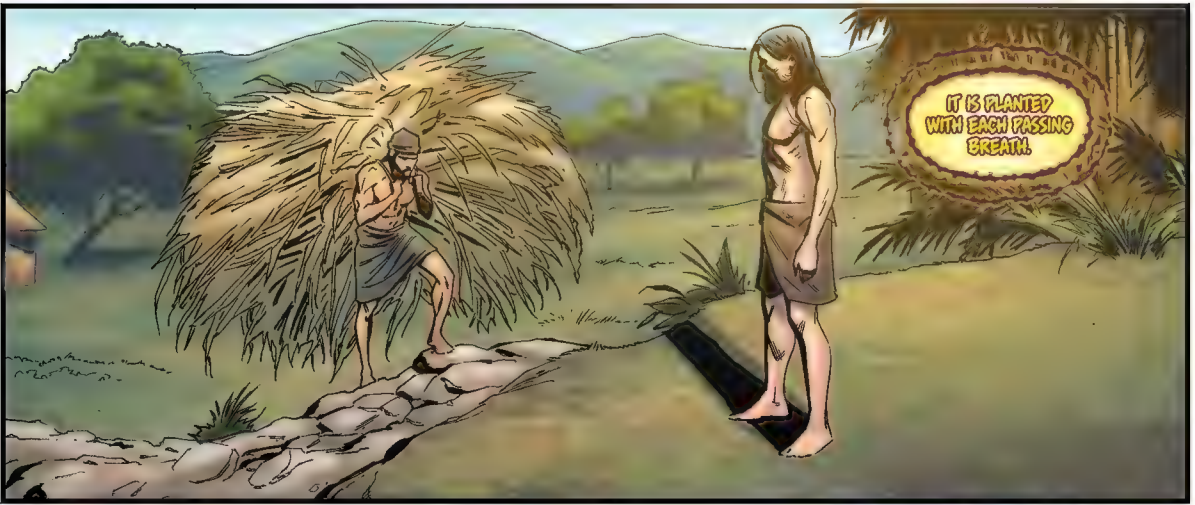


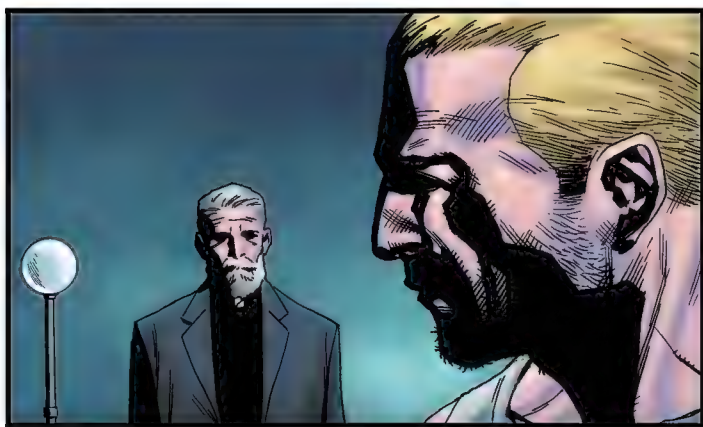
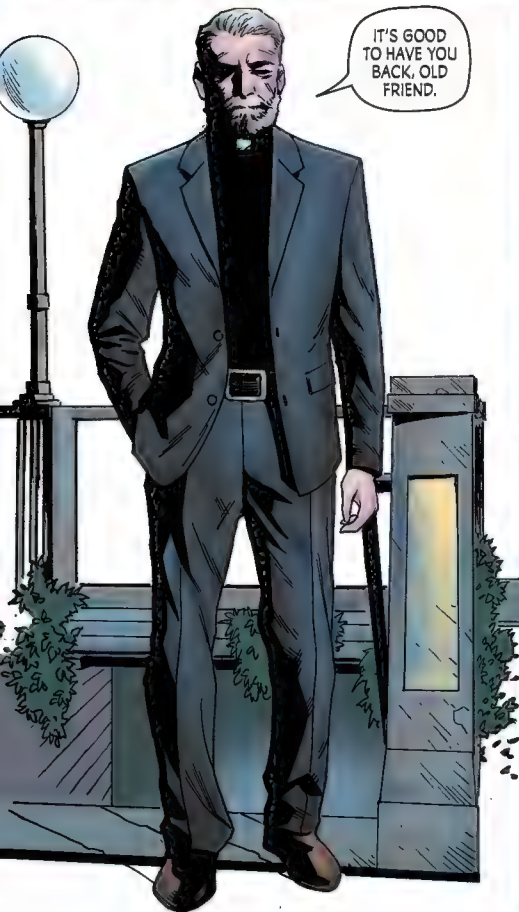
I'M DEAL WITH THIS MYSELF!

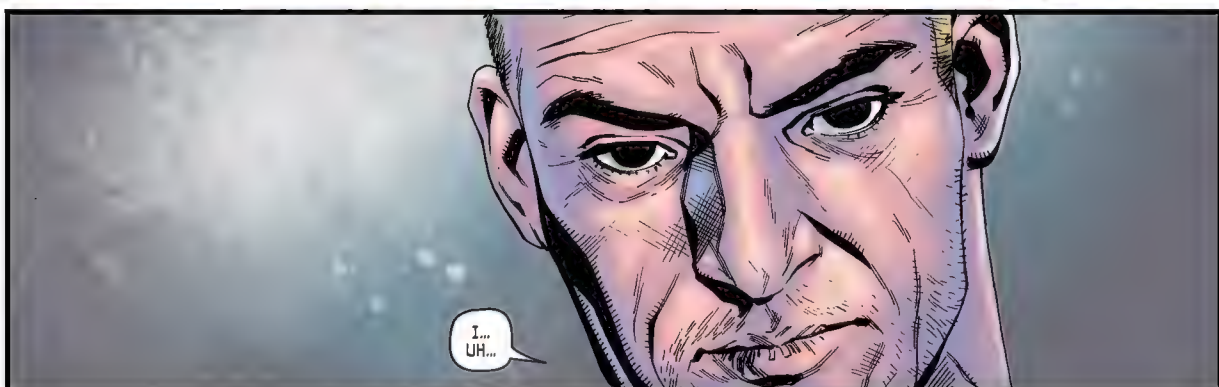


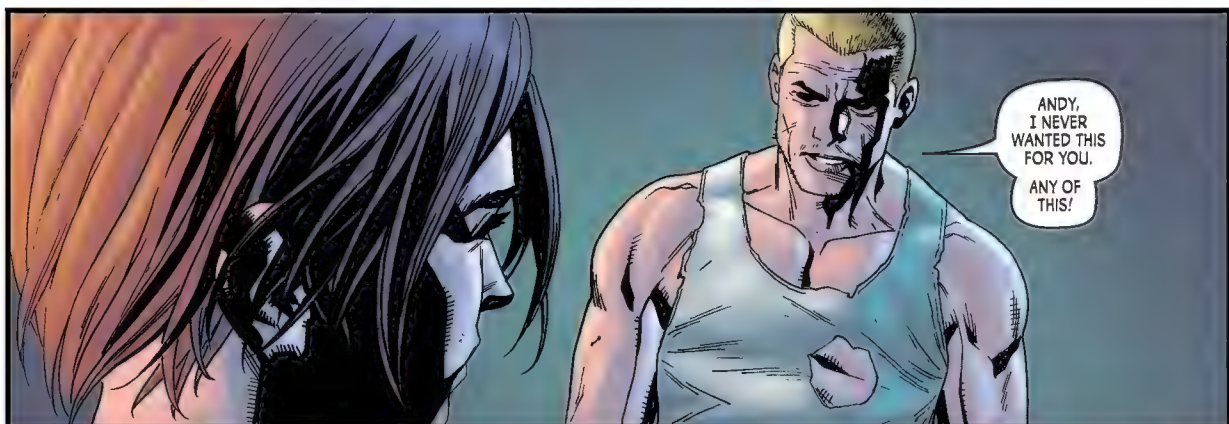
...DEAL.

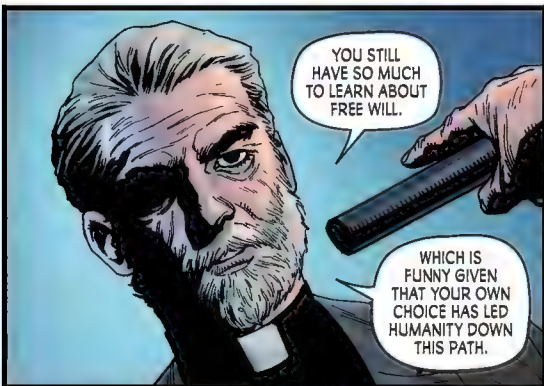














HIS NAME WAS
**JOSEPH OF
ARIMATHEA.**

THOSE STAFFS WE
HOLD DEAR. OUR
TOOLS AGAINST THE
CREATOR? HE MADE IT
ALL POSSIBLE FOR US.

YOU COULD SAY HE IS
THE FOUNDER OF THE
RESISTANCE. BEFORE
SUCH A NOTION EVEN
EXISTED.

YOU SEE...WE
HAVE NEVER
TRULY BEEN
ALONE.

AND WE HAVE
TAKEN MANY
LOSSES.

YET, WE
PERSEVERE.

YOU SEE, DELLEC, I
AM THE DESCENDANT
OF THESE TRUE SAVIORS.
I MUST CONTINUE THE
LINK OR WE RISK
BREAKING THE CHAIN
ALTOGETHER...





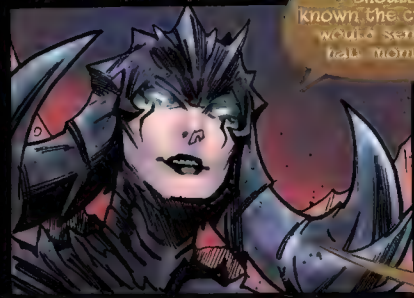
WELCOME
HOME, TERA...WE
LEFT THE LIGHT
ON FOR YOU.

It should've
known the creator
would send the
bad monitor

FUNNY. I
CONSIDER MYSELF
MORE LIKE THE
PRINCIPAL.

YOU KNEW THIS
WOULD HAPPEN. WE
HAVE RULES--AND YOU
BROKE THEM. NOW
YOU GOTTA GO
TO DETENTION.

I'm being
punished for
doing my job well?
That's rather...
backwards, if
you ask me.



NO
ONE'S
ASKING
YOU.



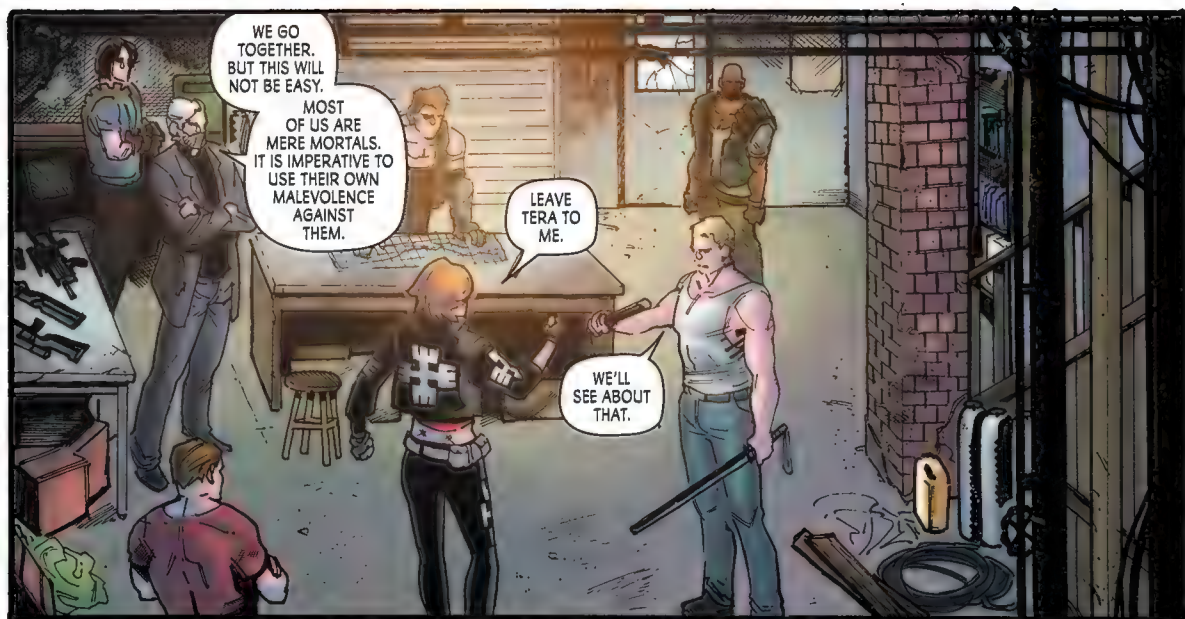
well...
then, let's
proceed



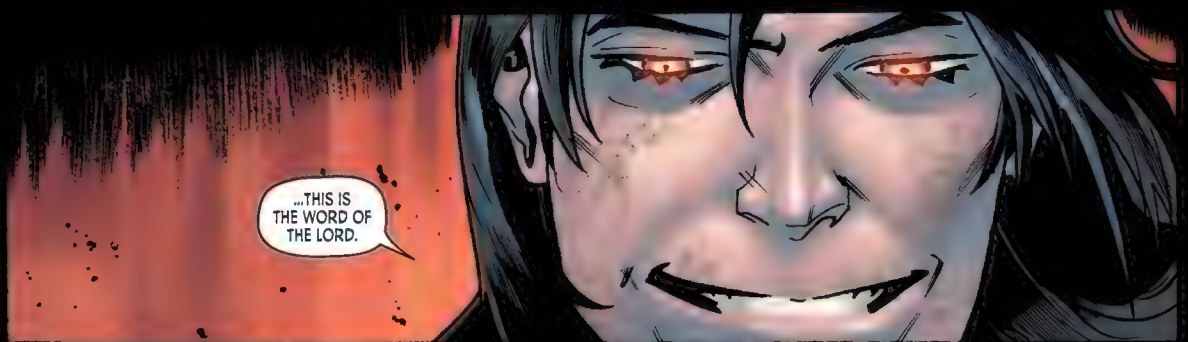
but, I
should warn
you

"I have
been busy."











TO BE CONTINUED



HELLBLITZ™

BRUTAL
VENGEANCE!

#4



Cover A by:
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BONUS FATHOM STORY!

Check out PART THREE of
Michael Turner's Original Fathom #0...

IT WAS LIKE
A DREAM.

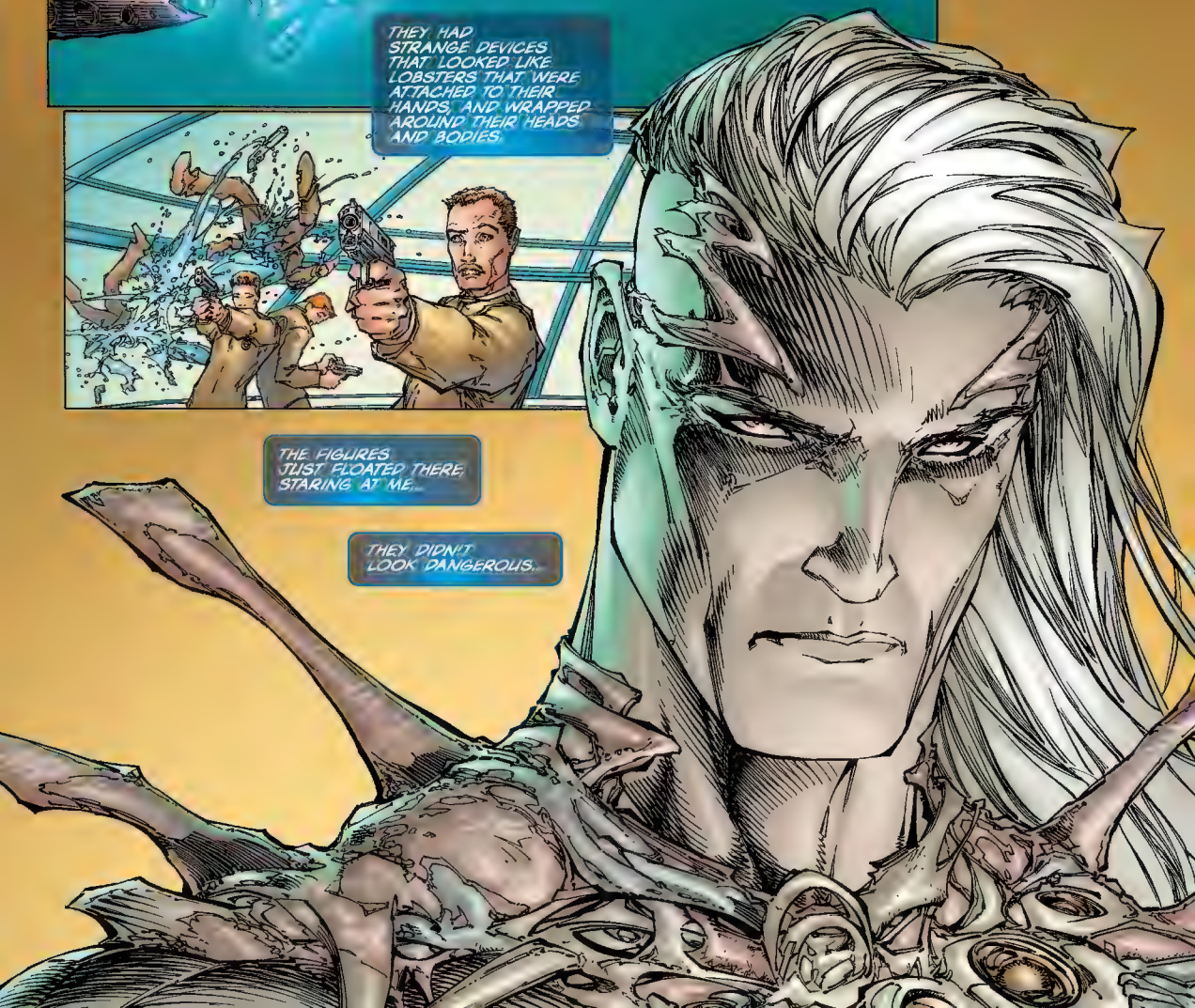
THERE WERE
FIGURES, DOZENS
OF THEM, FLOATING
IN FRONT OF ME.

THEY LOOKED
HUMAN, BUT HAD A
PHOSPHORESCENT
GLOW TO THEM.

THEY HAD
STRANGE DEVICES
THAT LOOKED LIKE
LOBSTERS THAT WERE
ATTACHED TO THEIR
HANDS, AND WRAPPED
AROUND THEIR HEADS
AND BODIES.

THE FIGURES
JUST FLOATED THERE,
STARING AT ME.

THEY DIDN'T
LOOK DANGEROUS.



ONE OF THE FIGURES CAME FORWARD.

HE WAS BEAUTIFUL, WITH LONG FLOWING HAIR AND HYPNOTIC EYES. HE PUT HIS HANDS OUT AND THE WATER STARTED TO GLOW IN FRONT OF HIM.

I STARTED TINGLING.

A WARM FIRE BEGAN TO EMANATE FROM MY BODY. THE FIGURE LOOKED AT ME AND SMILED.

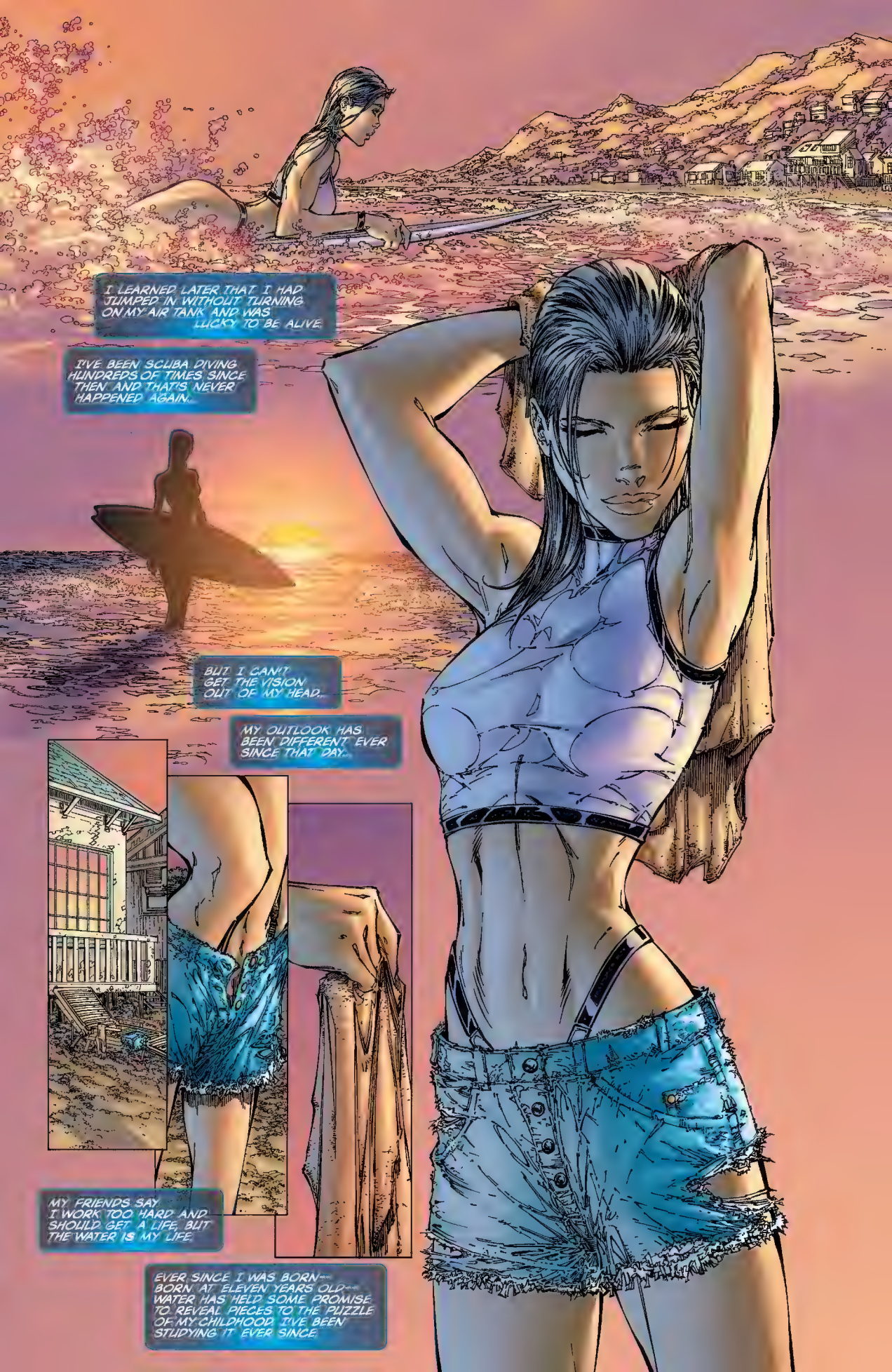
AND...

HE SUDDENLY CAME FORWARD AND GRABBED ME. HIS FACE CHANGED TO THAT OF MY INSTRUCTOR. HE WAS DRAGGING ME TOWARD THE SURFACE.

I WAS PUT ON THE BACK OF THE DIVE BOAT. THE OTHER DIVERS IN THE CLASS CIRCLED AROUND ME AND WERE CRYING WHILE THE INSTRUCTOR WAS BLOWING INTO MY MOUTH. I TRIED TO SPEAK BUT NOTHING WORKED.

AFTER ABOUT 30 SECONDS, I SPIT OUT SOME WATER AND COULD FEEL MY BODY AGAIN. THEY TOOK THE BOAT TO SHORE AND SAID I NEEDED TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

BUT I ACTUALLY FELT OK.

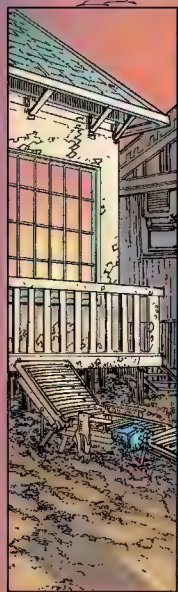


I LEARNED LATER THAT I HAD
JUMPED IN WITHOUT TURNING
ON MY AIR TANK AND WAS
LUCKY TO BE ALIVE

I'VE BEEN SCUBA DIVING
HUNDREDS OF TIMES SINCE
THEN AND THAT'S NEVER
HAPPENED AGAIN.

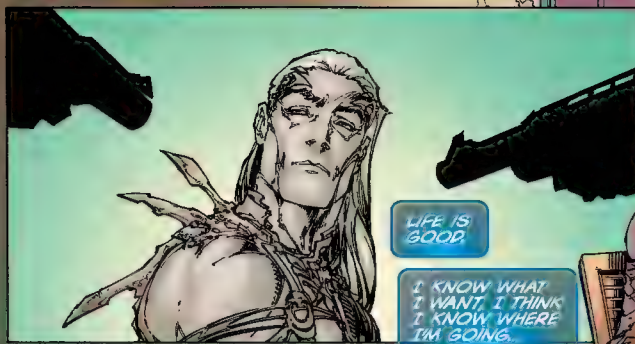
BUT I CAN'T
GET THE VISION
OUT OF MY HEAD.

MY OUTLOOK HAS
BEEN DIFFERENT EVER
SINCE THAT DAY.



MY FRIENDS SAY
I WORK TOO HARD AND
SHOULD GET A LIFE, BUT
THE WATER IS MY LIFE.

EVER SINCE I WAS BORN—
BORN AT ELEVEN YEARS OLD—
WATER HAS HELD SOME PROMISE
TO REVEAL PIECES TO THE PUZZLE
OF MY CHILDHOOD. I'VE BEEN
STUDYING IT EVER SINCE.

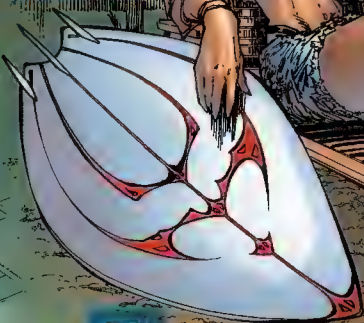


LIFE IS GOOD.

I KNOW WHAT I WANT. I THINK I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING.

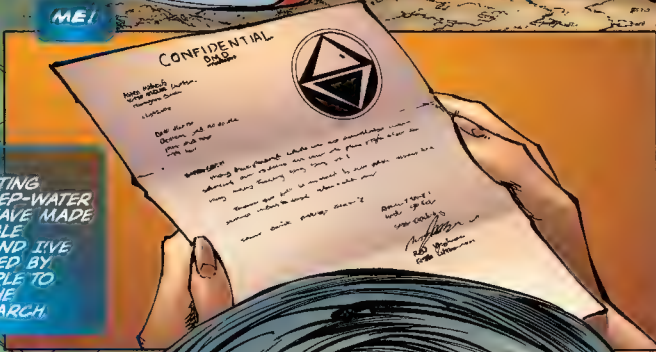
...AND NOW.

THE LETTER I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR FOR THREE MONTHS!



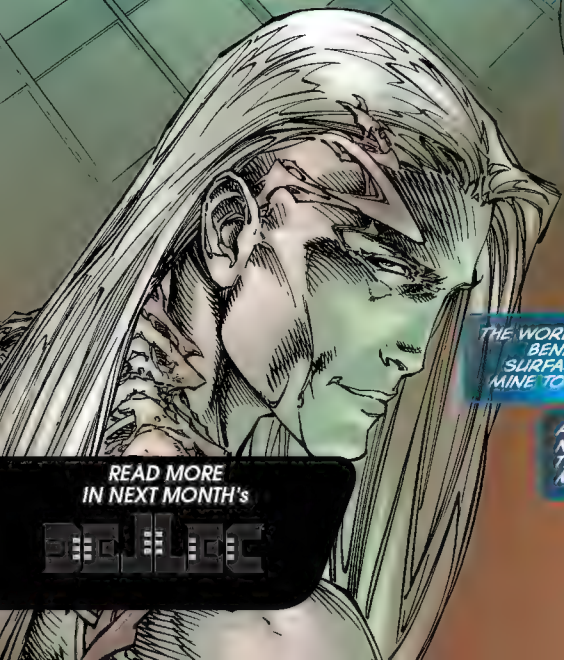
THEY ACTUALLY WANT ME.

ME!



DMD INC. IS FORMALLY INVITING ME TO THEIR DEEP-WATER HABITAT. THEY HAVE MADE SOME INCREDIBLE DISCOVERIES AND I'VE BEEN REQUESTED BY THEIR TOP PEOPLE TO ASSIST WITH THE RESEARCH.

I AM ACTUALLY GOING... IN EIGHT WEEKS!



THE WORLD BENEATH THE SURFACE WILL BE MINE TO EXPERIENCE!

AND WITH IT, NEW DISCOVERIES THAT MAY CHANGE MY LIFE FOREVER.

I CAN FEEL IT!

READ MORE IN NEXT MONTH'S

DELL

FRANK MASTROMAURO

VINCE HERNANDEZ

HELL

RISSO :: STA.MARIA :: SABBATINI
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DELLEC

CHAPTER 2::4

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Dellec—along with Father Strayer and his daughter, Andy—made the decision to confront the Hands of God directly, although Dellec let it be known he'd rather go about it alone. However, Tera made her own appearance before the Hands of God, but it didn't end well—as the Demigod met her match and ultimately was slain just as Dellec and allies arrived to witness her death...

And the whole world lies
in the power of the evil one...

WRITTEN BY:

FRANK MASTROMAURO + VINCE HERNANDEZ

ILLUSTRATED BY:

ANDRÉ RISSO (PGS 3, 6-13, 17-20)

+ FEDERIGO SABBATINI (PGS 4, 5, 16) + MICHAEL STA. MARIA (PGS 1, 2)

COLORS BY:

OMI REMALANTE JR. (PGS 1, 7)

+ ERICK ARCINIEGA (PGS 7, 20)

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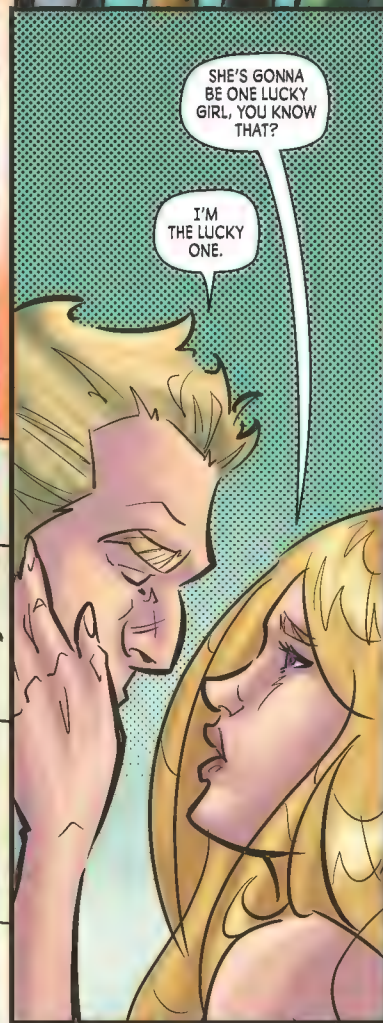
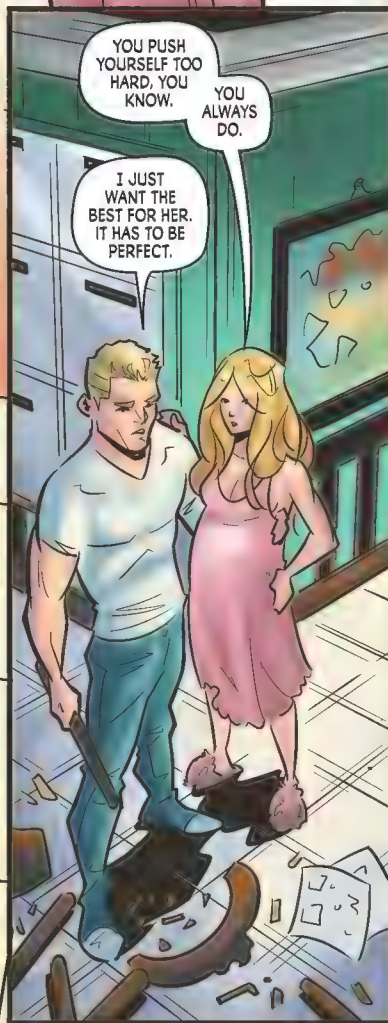
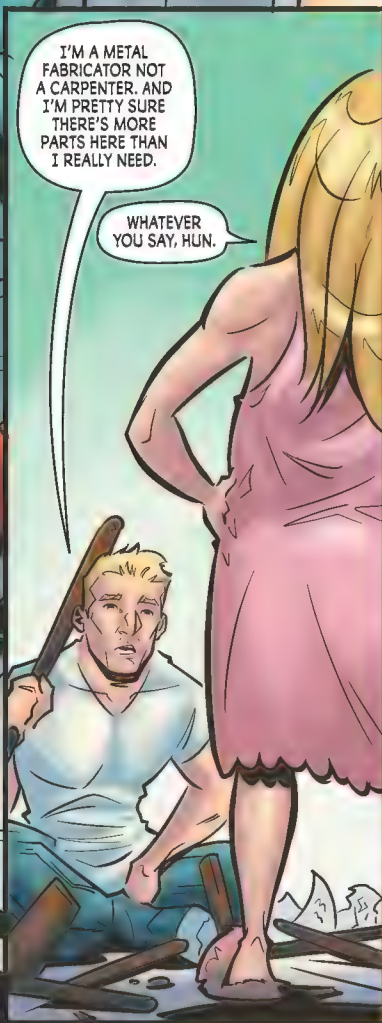
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"AN AWAKENING."









NNNGHH!



GWEN..?

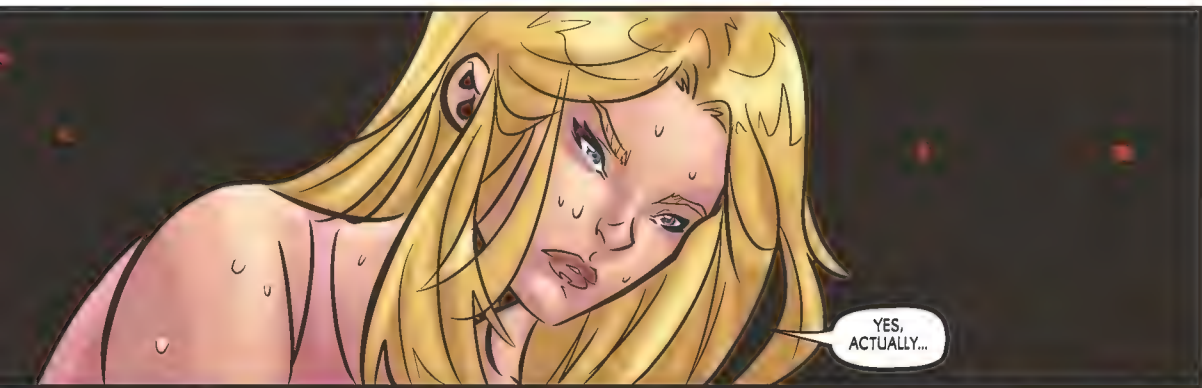
SON
OF A--
SHE IS ONE
DEFIANT LITTLE
SUCKER. THOSE
KICKS.



ANDY,
YOU ARE
ONE TOUGH
COOKIE.



YOU GAVE HER
A BOY'S NAME,
DID YOU EXPECT
ANYTHING
LESS?



YES,
ACTUALLY...



I EXPECTED
YOU TO STAY
DEAD!



YOU SEE, YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT THAN HER, MY FRIEND.

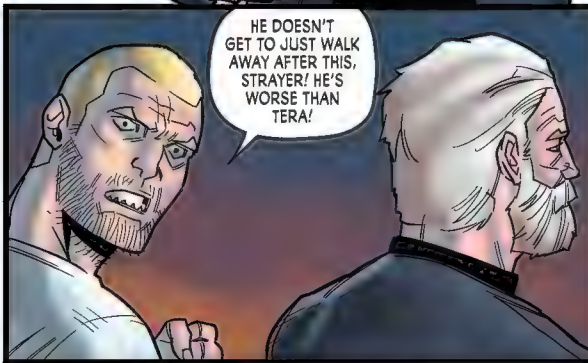
WHAT DID YOU--?!

WHAT? YOUR PRECIOUS MEMORIES? DON'T WORRY, SOME THINGS ARE OUT OF REACH. BUT, I CAN STILL HAVE A LITTLE FUN, CAN'T I?

PLEASE. I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE. WE'RE NOT LOOKING TO FURTHER THE BLOODSHED. WE JUST WANT OUR WORLD BACK.

STAY OUT OF THIS, ACOLYTE. JUST CARRY ON WITH THE MARCHING ORDERS. YOU DON'T GET TO WRITE THE RULES.

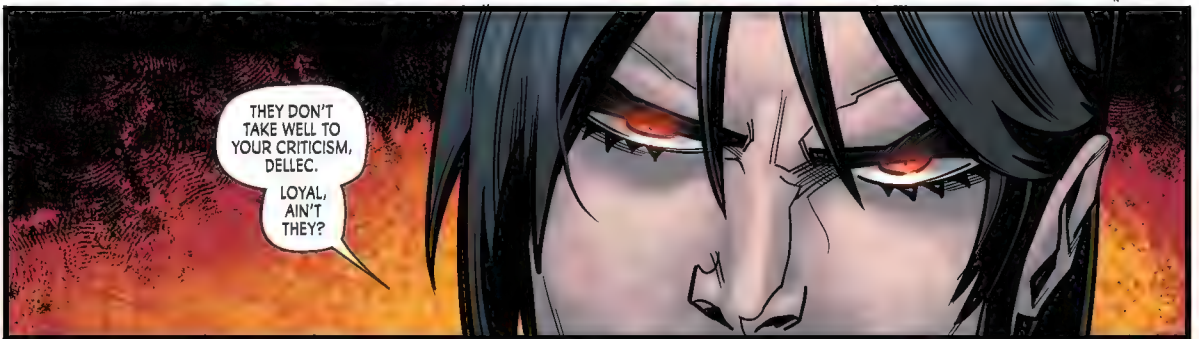
YOU SEEK TO START OVER, WITH TERA GONE, WE CAN ALL COLLECTIVELY DO SO?



HE DOESN'T GET TO JUST WALK AWAY AFTER THIS, STRAYER! HE'S WORSE THAN TERA!



GRRRRRRRR HISSSSSS



THEY DON'T TAKE WELL TO YOUR CRITICISM, DELLEC.

LOYAL, AIN'T THEY?





KRUNCH!

AHHHHHHHH!

SKRINTH!

CHOMP!





YOU'RE THE
ONE WITH THE
RISING BLOOD
COUNT.



DAD!



UNGH.

SMASH!



DAD...
WHO...?



NEAT, AIN'T IT?
ALL YOUR PAST
VICTIMS--PROPERTY
OF THE CREATOR I
MIGHT ADD--ALL
IN ONE PLACE.



I LIKE
CONVENIENCE.





SO YOU
DO BLEED LIKE
A NORMAL--



OH,
RIGHT!

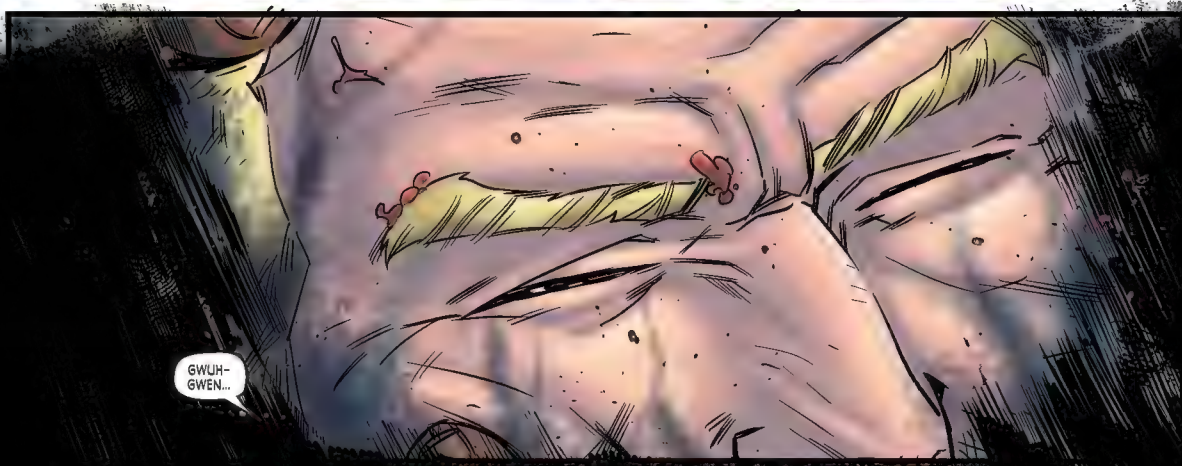


I DON'T
NEED THE
STAFFS TO SENSE
THE EVIL IN
YOU...

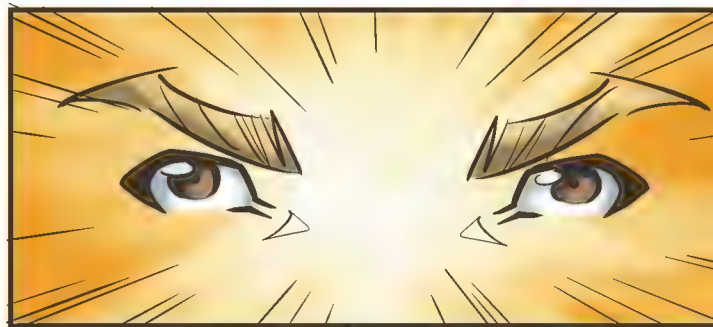
NOR DO
I NEED THEM,
SINNER...



...TO
RETURN
YOU TO YOUR
MAKER!



GWEN...



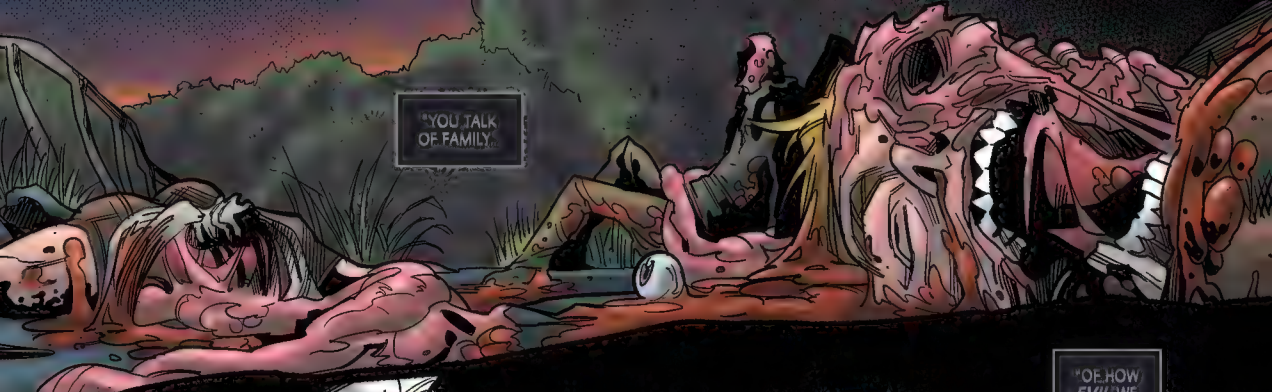
POW!

ENOUGH.
YOU WANT
TO KILL ME? TRY
ME. I'VE BEEN
THERE.
BUT, NO
ONE THREATENS
MY FAMILY.



HUUUUUUHH!
YOU
JUST DON'T
GET IT...





"YOU TALK
OF FAMILY."



"OF HOW
EVIL WE
ARE..."

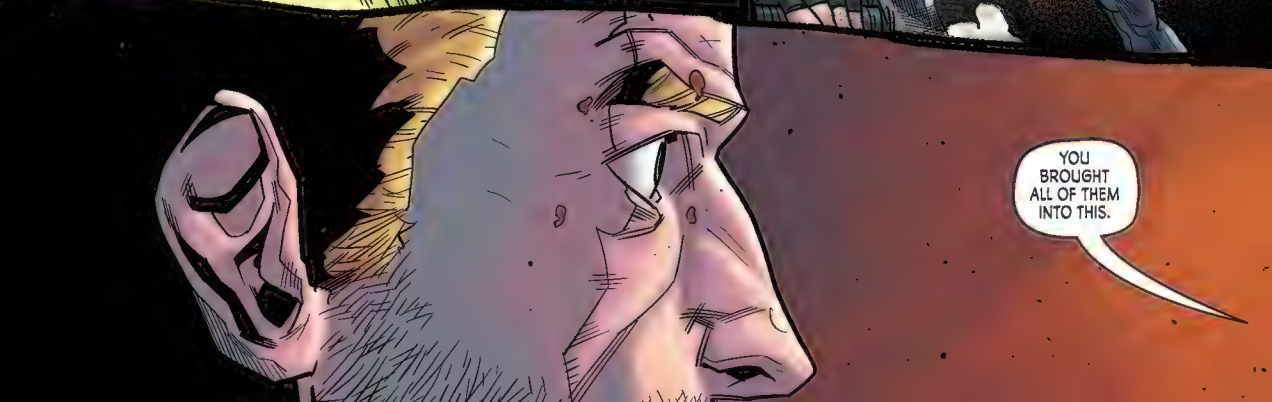


"BUT, LOOK
AROUND YOU."

"ALL OF
THIS?"



"THIS IS
ALL YOU,
BIG GUY."



YOU
BROUGHT
ALL OF THEM
INTO THIS.

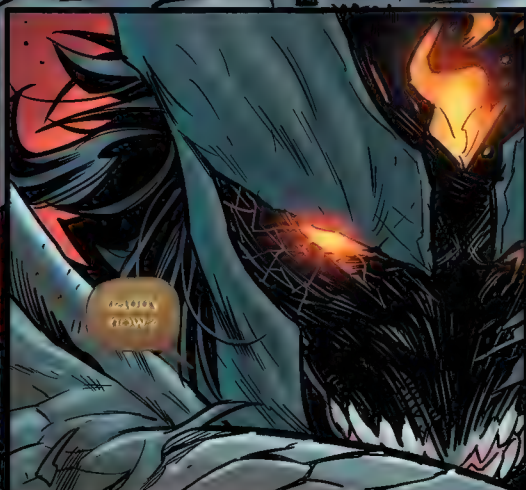




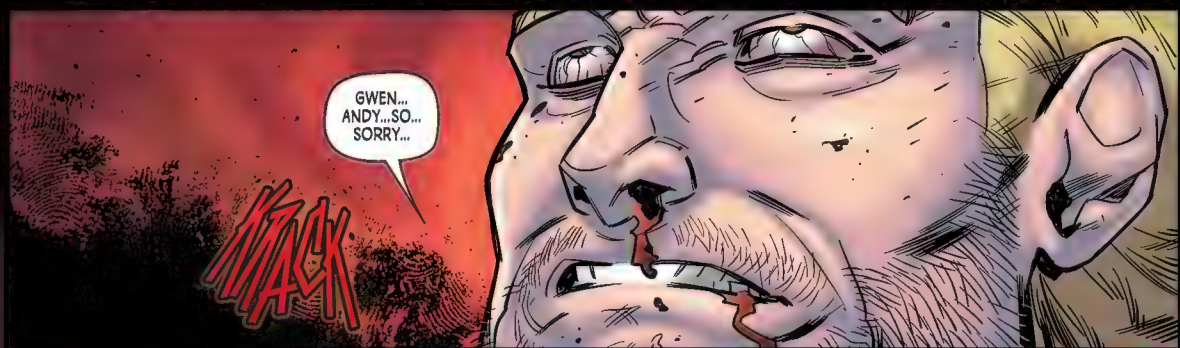
Time to
show you
what happens
when a really
get mad.



HUUURGGGH.



GOING
DOWN



GWEN...
ANDY...SO...
SORRY...

CRACK





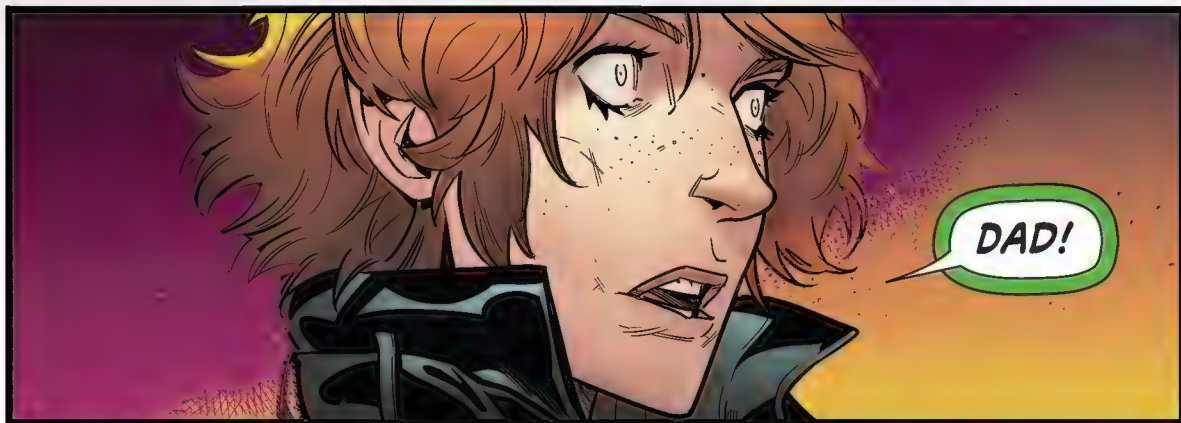
RAAAGH!!



HNNH..?



ANDY--
YOUR
FATHER!

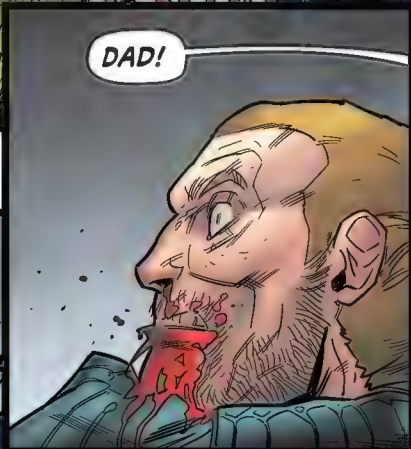


DAD!



Don't blame me--your pops caused this. all of this. even my dogs were part of his reality, not mine. you should be thanking me, really.

But, like always my gifts go unnoticed. you want closure? fine, if you say so...



DAD!



WHAT ARE YOU... DOING?



killing him twice now clearly hasn't done the trick. it's time for something more direct--



NOOOOOOOOO!

SHUM!

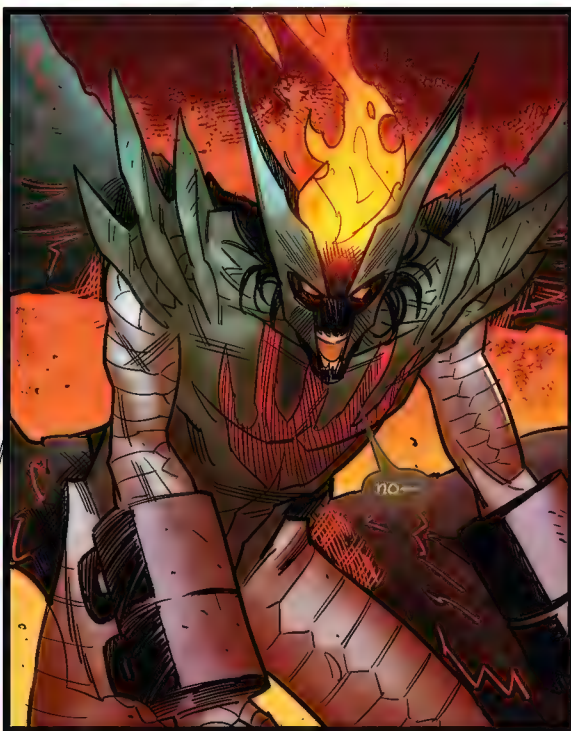




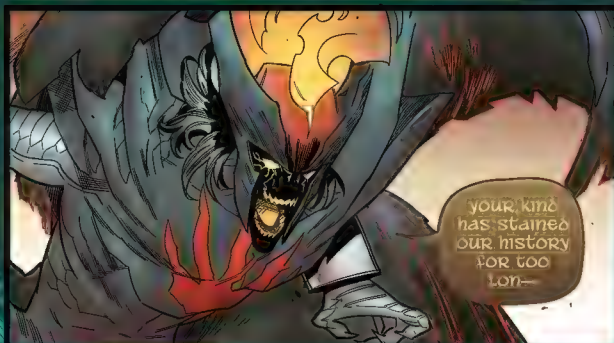
What are you—

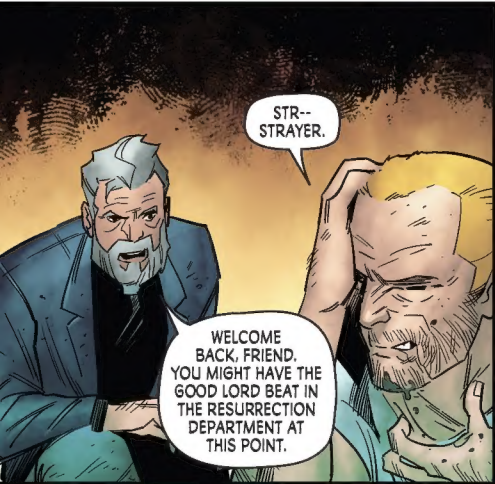


ANDY!



no—











SOME TIME LATER.

THAT'S JUST IT, LEDGE...

...NONE OF US DO. THAT IS THE GREAT UNKNOWN, THAT WHICH WE NOW MUST ENTER.

YOU MAKE IT SOUND SO BLEAK, FATHER.

DELLEC IS GONE. HE'S TAKEN ANDY.

TERA AND THE HANDS OF GOD HAVE LEFT US...FOR NOW.

I HAVE LEARNED MANY THINGS IN MY EXPERIENCE, AND ONE OF THOSE IS ALWAYS TO FEAR WHAT COMES NEXT.

WELL, LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. WITH THE HELL THAT WE'VE ALREADY BEEN THROUGH, I'M SURE WE CAN OVERCOME ANYTHING AT THIS POINT.

THAT'S JUST IT, MY FRIEND...

...IT'S NOT HELL I'M WORRIED ABOUT.

THE END